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## Near East/South Asia Report

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1 March 1984

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DEPLOYMENT OF SOVIET MISSILES IN ARAB AFRICA DISCUSSED

Paris AFRICA DEFENCE in English No 37, Sep 83 pp 54, 56, 57, 60

[Excerpts] **An increasing number of African nations are equipping themselves with Soviet-made anti-aircraft missiles. Some of them are fully equipped along the lines of the strategy employed by Soviet bloc nations (Algeria, Libya, Ethiopia, Angola and Egypt). Other, much smaller nations dispose of a force that has no relation to their size, as is the case with Guinea-Bissau, Cape-Verde and the Seychelles. Over the past 5 years there has been a spectacular increase in Africa of Soviet missiles both in terms of the quality of the equipment and the number of countries that are equipped with the weapons.**

**Machreck**

**Egypt**

Egyptian air defence is jointly assured by the Egyptian Air Force (EAF) and the Air Defence Force (ADF). The two forces have a joint information and warning network that covers the entire country using either optical detection observation posts (making it possible to counter an enemy attack under heavy electronic jamming) or older Soviet radars along with more modern Western-made radars. Certain of the Soviet warning radar systems may become inoperative as of 1985 due to inability to obtain spare tubes and parts. With the numerous Western anti-aircraft defence weapon systems and radars now coming into service (Westinghouse AN/TPS-63, General Electric AN/TPS-59, Thomson-CSF Tiger), the US Army Missile Command in Huntsville Alabama has proposed a \$173 million project within the context of the Foreign Military Sales program (FMS) for the upgrading and expansion of the existing Egyptian air defence weapon systems through the addition of new components and sub-assemblies. These would include advanced warning radar systems that would enable the life of the older equipment now used to be extended another 10 years.

This project calls for the modification of the present basic organization of the ADF, which is now set up along the lines of the Soviet

model at the brigade level. Studies are under way for the development of a structure analogous to the US surface-to-air battalions with subordinated batteries.

The Raytheon (USA) Improved Hawk and Thomson-CSF (France) Crotale surface-to-air missile launchers are gradually being integrated with certain Soviet systems and some Soviet and Western radars. This unit has an overall command system, the Litton Industries (USA) AN/TSQ-73, delivered in 1981. Hughes Aircraft (USA) has also done a \$1 million design study requested by Egyptian authorities. Delivered in late 1981, this study deals with the means required to link all of the different air defence radars of diverse origin, including the manually operated Soviet types. Command, operating and communications equipment should all be interconnected. Hughes Aircraft has also proposed an automatic integrated command and surveillance system linked to tri-dimensional S-band radars made by the company, as well as to search and tracking radars mounted on tracked vehicles. Over 400 objectives at distances of 250 km can thus be tracked simultaneously.

Commanded by Major-General El Sayed Hamdy and Chief of Staff General Magdi Ahmed Soleiman, the ADF (8,000 men) is headquartered under the hills near Nasser City (Cairo). Its surface-to-air missile launching strength still consists in large part of Soviet material, the subject of the present



article, and it has an Air Defence Institute at Alexandria that was founded in 1978. First of all, the ADF has 60 SAM-2 Guideline sites, with over 360 operational launchers out of the 1,900 units received, 25 % of which are SAM-2B Mod 1 types. Each launcher has ZIL 151-157 supply vehicle with a single missile. This surface-to-air weapon system, mainly used to protect air bases, was substantially modified and modernized through the services of Thomson-CSF (France), in particular. Its target acquisition and tracking capacity is backed up by an electro-optical TV unit. Furthermore, it is now equipped with electronic counter counter measures (ECCM), its flight speed has been increased and it has greater precision.

As are all of the Egyptian air defence weapon systems, it is equipped with an IFF unit manufactured in the Katron factory in Benha. The guidance radar used is the Fan Song F and the acquisition radars, capable of directing three missiles to a selected objective, are Flat Face P-15 low-altitude units (detection range 250 km) and Spoon Rest P-12 VHF units. The altitude reach of the SAM-2 is from 300 (optical mode) to 90,000 feet.

For countering objectives flying at altitudes between 150 and 60,000 feet, the SAM-3 Goa has an effective horizontal range of from 1.5 to 12 n.m. It has a speed of 700 meters/second and is equipped with a doppler proximity fuze that is activated at 300 m from the objective. Normally, the SAM-3 works in conjunction with 14.5 mm ZPU-2 or 4 cannon which are assigned to cover air defence against diving targets.

In Egypt, the SAM-3 fire stations, generally consisting of two batteries (or battalions), are protected by decoy sites with IR decoy launchers, thermal and radio signal transmitters (anti-IR or radar detection), radar antenna, dirigibles and smoke devices against optical sensors for protection against air-to-ground missiles. This equipment is all under the control of the 1st battery. The 2nd battery controls the four firing units, each launcher of which has 2 missiles ready to fire and a reload unit with two missiles mounted on a ZIL-157 3-axle truck. The Low Blow radar (frequencies 9-9, 4 GHz, range 70 km, peak power 250 KW), is located near the site in a bunker covered with 20 feet of sand and powered by two 100 KW generators. The interface of this I-band radar integrates it with the SAM-2 radar, the Fan Song F, and with the Flat Face (range 250 km) and the Squint-Eye. The SAM-3 also has a Soviet B-15 system with an IFF sub-unit.

Egypt has 50 SAM-3 sites throughout the country, with nearly 200 launchers out of

1500 missiles delivered. The US firm Teledyne provides servicing of this equipment and supplies spare parts and electronic components.

In addition to this, the ADF still has about 75 Shilka SAM-6 Gainful armoured tracked launchers, each with three ground-to-air-missiles.

The chassis of the vehicle uses components from the ZSU-23/4 self-propelled gun system. There remain 300 missiles out of 750 delivered. Serving as protection for air and naval bases, each mobile battery is comprised of four launchers, two supply vehicles with three missiles each, a dual-antenna Straight Flush/mobile acquisition/illumination/guidance radar (G, H, I, J, bands) mounted on the tracked chassis of the PT-76 reconnaissance tank and an early-warning Long Track (I-band) radar with a range of 100 km and 30,000 meters in altitude. For static defence, the SAM-3 detection radar is most often used. Shown for the first time in 1979 at the annual October 6 military parade in Cairo was an innovation developed by Egypt for transporting the reserve Gainful missiles. Six missiles in two rows of three stacked head-to-tail were carried on a trailer drawn by the ZIL 151 6 x 6 vehicle.

The range of the SAM-6 is from 2 to 12 n.m. and 50 to 30,000 feet in altitude (speed 600 m/s). It is equipped with a proximity fuze linked to a fragmentation warhead. Terminal guidance is semi-active.

A number of SAM-6 Shilka systems have been sent by plane to the United States for upgrading by Teledyne, prime contractor for a group of American firms in charge of maintenance for the systems, as well as their modernization and upgrading under the direction of the US Army Missile Command. Certain of the original power units are to be replaced by Garrett model 30 gas turbines, and Teledyne has installed vacuum tubes, in particular. Teledyne is also taking part in the upgrading of the 2 000 SAM-7 missiles that are still in service out of 5 000 delivered, by increasing the sensitivity of the IR sensors with which they are equipped. For its part, Thomson-CSF is providing technical support for the modification of the 1 000 SAM-7 launchers by equipping them with an IFF capacity and a light intensification sighting system that will give them night firing capability. Further modifications have been installed on, light cross-country Jeeps made in Egypt by American Vehicles (AAV).

The SAM-7 Grail, or Strela (Soviet name) has IR guidance and is a shoulder-mounted missile launcher with a range of from 0.5 to 2

n.m. for altitudes from 50 to 15,000 feet. It is obvious, then, that the large number of Soviet missiles enables Egypt to maintain an excellent level of preparedness, thanks to the addition of new technologies and the manufacture of spare parts and components. The Egyptian defence industry is playing an important role in this program, especially in terms of the propulsion units. For the electronic components, it is backed principally by Thomson-CSF, within the context of the Arab Electronic Co, as well as by American firms that are also playing a large part in this upgrading program.

## **Sudan**

The 54 SAM-2 batteries in service are mainly used for the defence of strategic points such as Port-Sudan, Wadi Seidna and Khartoum. Some of these Soviet-supplied missiles are now thought to have only limited operational capabilities. Nevertheless, it seems that the Sudanese have received technical assistance from neighbouring Egypt, and that some of the SAM-2 batteries have been improved considerably. SAM-7 missiles were supplied by the URSS (x40) and later by Egypt. Most of these have been deployed along the Sudanese/Chadian/Libyan border. The equipment delivered by Egypt has been positioned to repel any Libyan aerial incursions, particularly from aircraft stationed in Chad.

## **The Ansars**

The guerrilla forces of Mr. Al Hindji, trained in Libyan camps, have been equipped with SAM-7s.

## **Libya**

Ground-to-air missiles are deployed in the Soviet Union to fulfill two principal functions. First of all, they are to provide defence of strategic positions and secondly, they provide anti-aircraft support for ground troops. Within the context of this second function, the size of the Libyan air defence structure can easily be evaluated through extrapolation of the totally Soviet structure adopted by Libyan armed forces. Libya has totally copied the model of the Soviet armed forces in terms of the organization of its troops, including those that use Western-made equipment.

At present, according to the latest available data, Libya has 3,500 battle tanks. It can thus equip 3 armies with their different units, 8 divisions of motorized fusiliers and 4 armoured divisions, for a total of 3,280 main battle tanks. It can be considered that there are 220 tanks used for strategic reserves that are not assigned to divisions.

Nevertheless, this equipment is designed to equip the 300,000 men that the Libyan Army would have if the country were mobilized at this time. The 70,000 troops of the Libyan Army as at present level comprise hardly 2 armoured divisions and 3 divisions of motorized fusiliers, in addition to the Islamic legion. Each of these 3 armies, or potential fronts has 1 improved SAM-2 regiment with 24 missiles, 1 regiment of 24 SAM-6s and it is thought that recently SAM-4 Ganefs have been delivered as well, although this has not been confirmed. This would make it possible to constitute a brigade of 24 SAM-4s per army.

Each armoured and motorized fusiliers division has 30 SAM-6 or SAM-8 missiles. It is thought that 3 armoured divisions and 6 motorized fusiliers divisions are equipped with the SAM-6, the other newly formed units being equipped with SAM-8s. At the level of the 4 regiments of the divisions, each of them has 4 SAM-9s or SAM-13s, this being 16 systems per division.

It also would seem that the distribution of the SAM-13s and SAM-9s is the same as with the SAM-6s and SAM-8s, or 6 divisions of motorized fusiliers and 4 armoured divisions equipped with SAM-9s, the others having SAM-13s. Finally, each infantry combat vehicle carries a SAM-7, which amounts to 195 missiles for the armoured division and 437 for the motorized fusilier division. The following estimate can thus be made of the air defence missile strength of Libyan ground troops : 72 SAM-2 ; 72 SAM-4 ; 342 SAM-6 ; 4,460 SAM-7 ; 90 SAM-8 ; 144 SAM-9 ; 48 SAM-13.

For anti-aircraft defence of strategic points such as airports, headquarters, military factories, etc., the situation is more complex. Certain bases, such as those at Obka Ben Nafeh and Benina are defended by at least 3 batteries. 25 other important bases are almost all defended by 2 batteries each.

Among the some sixty minor airfields, certain seem to be starting to be protected by anti-aircraft missiles. 8 other strategic sites are also protected by anti-aircraft missile launching batteries.

There are thus some fifty SAM-2, SAM-3, SAM-6, SAM-8, SAM-9 and SAM-13 batteries with four launchers each in use for air defence. It should be emphasized that these counts cover systems estimated to have been supplied, and not equipment that is truly operational. Their operational deployment is essentially carried out by the 20,000 military advisors from Socialist bloc countries.



## **Maghreb**

### **Algeria**

Over the past 5 years, the Algerian Army has undergone spectacular growth, with the reinforcement of armoured and motorized brigades and their growth into divisions. The structure of the army nevertheless remains rather spread out, with the retention of independent brigades from the regrouping and the reinforcement of the armoured and motorized battalions.

The Armée populaire nationale thus represents 7 divisions of motorized fusiliers and 3 armoured divisions for a total of 2,170 combat vehicles. Part of these divisions seem to be structured in armies of the Soviet type. The 3 armoured divisions and 2 divisions of motorized fusiliers facing the Oujda plain are grouped into a Soviet type army with its own air cover. This protection consists of a regiment of improved SAM-2s, a regiment of SAM-4s delivered in 1981, and another regiment of SAM-6s. The APN thus counts, for troop protection: 24 SAM-2; 240 SAM-6; 24 SAM-4; 3,000 SAM-7; 1 armoured division is thought to have been equipped with about thirty SAM-9s; 128 SAM-9; 1 division is being equipped with 16 SAM-13s.

Certain strategic points are also well-protected by Algerian anti-aircraft systems. The Tindouf region, where one of the Polisario's sanctuaries is situated, is protected by 2 SAM-2 batteries, two SAM-3 batteries and a SAM-6 battery, in addition to the very recent installation of several SAM-8 launchers. Other large bases are also heavily defended, such as Ouargla, Colomb-Béchar and Di Chela. Each is defended by 2 or 3 batteries of SAM-2s, SAM-3s and SAM-6s. The air defence network thus consists of 15

batteries with 4 launchers each of: SAM-2; SAM-3; SAM-6; SAM-8.

### **Morocco**

Some 200 SAM-7s were delivered to Morocco in 1981 by Egypt, and a few of them were captured from the Polisario. Morocco also has a number of SAM-3 batteries.

### **The Polisario**

The Polisario has considerably increased its armoured force strength through new Algerian and Libyan deliveries that are added to the equipment captured, thus enabling it to form an armoured regiment of 95 combat tanks. Anti-aircraft cover has consequently increased as well. It is not really integrated into the armoured forces' protection systems but is also used to protect troop concentrations along the Mauritanian border. Nevertheless, protection of the armoured units is mainly provided by 4 SAM-8s and 10 more mobile SAM-9s. Eight other SAM-6 systems are also used to protect rear formations. The Polisario also has a number of SAM-3s.

### **Mauritania**

SAM-7 batteries were supplied from 1980 on, probably Algeria, perhaps from Iraq and most certainly from Libya. According to recent reports, a battery of 4 SAM-9s has been deployed at Nouadhibou, the main depot and rear base of the Polisario. It should be noted that for the past two years Algeria has delivered considerable amounts of anti-aircraft equipment to Mauritania which uses its air defence systems to protect sites at Nouakchott, Nouadhibou, Zouerate and Bir Mogherein.

ORIGIN, GOALS, LEADERSHIP OF DA'WAH PARTY EXAMINED

Kuwait AL-MUJTAMA' in Arabic No 650, 20 Dec; No 651, 27 Dec 83

[Article by Muhammad 'Abd-al-Hadi : "What About the Islamic Da'wah Party? Da'wa Party: Khomeyni is the Guardian of the Islamic Nation and the Jurist (faqih who Stands for its Interests; When Iran was Unable to Export its Revolution it Forced the Da'wah Party to Erect a Base for it in the Region")]

[20 Dec 83 pp 18-19]

[Text] Minister of State 'Abd-al-'Aziz Husayn announced the arrest of the terrorist elements that perpetrated the bombings and struck fear in the hearts of the peaceloving people in Kuwait. He announced that all of these elements belonged to the Islamic Da'wah Party. He announced that a total of 12 people were involved, 10 of whom have been arrested, including 7 Iraqis and 3 Lebanese. As for the other two, one was killed in the American embassy incident and the other is at large, although his identity and nationality are known. The minister also announced that those arrested would be turned over to the State Security Court to receive just punishment.

With this official announcement from the Kuwaiti government, it is likely that the organizations that claimed credit for the bombings, such as the Jihad Organization and the Islamic Revolution Movement, are actually fictitious organizations that are announced to cover up the true perpetrator.

But what is the Da'wah party? Who established it? What is its affiliation? Where does it focus its activities?

By reviewing the publications issued by the above-mentioned party in the Western capitals, it is possible to define its identity as follows.

Identity :

It is a party with Iraqi origins, Iranian guidance, and of Shiite persuasion. It considers the Iranian revolution to be a model for the formation of Islamic government. It believes in a supreme authority (who at this time is Khomeyni, as the party claims) who has smaller authorities acting for him in parts of the Islamic world. The party looks to the constitution of the Iranian republic as a model. The publication AL-KASHIF, which is published

by the party in London, describes the belief of the party's followers in what the magazine describes as "the authority as the true leader that can govern the Islamic nation in its entirety." Although the authority is in Iran, the men of the Da'wah party believe that their party is a small slice of society. It is, therefore, a part of the Islamic nation which requires, according to them, that its guardian be the jurist that stands up for the interests of the nation. This jurist is the Imam Khomeyni who is exercising his control over the party as one social segment within the Islamic nation. This jurist defends all parts of this nation.

This party believes that governments of slaves are predominant in this era and are a continuation of the rule of the Al Sufiyan. One of the party's poets expressed this notion when he said in a poem published in one of the publications: "Since the days when the Al Sufiyan ruled, may evil befall them, faces have dominated that bear expressions of stupidity."

#### Requirements of Khomeyni Leadership:

To emphasize the necessity of the imamate as imposed by Khomeyni on all party of the Islamic World, the Da'wa party says in one of its publications: "Knowledge and strength are not sufficient to qualify one for leadership. They must be accompanied by a knowledge of politics, bravery, perseverance, desire, and a revolutionary spirit. These conditions were met during the Islamic revolution in Iran in the person of the Imam Khomeyni and have been codified by the new Islamic constitution." But who is the leader? In the Islamic Action Organization, the Da'wah party has raised the idea of a single Islamic nation and its single leader. This leader, the party says, is the true fulfillment of the concept of the supreme authority and lesser authorities. The supreme authority would be the leader in a certain country, and the lesser authorities would be the leaders in other countries. These people summarize what they would like to impose on the Muslim world by saying, "Therefore, the Imam Khomeyni is the imam of all Muslims."

#### Two Wings of the Party

It is true that Iran has been unable to export its revolution. As soon as the revolution broke out, Iran sought to proselytize throughout our Muslim world. However, its inability forced it to promote the activities of the Da'wah party, but underground. Although Iran sought to create a large Da'wah party base in Iraq, it also insisted that some segments of the party go to Kuwait and the Gulf. This region is considered a prime target for Iran and a field for secret revolutionary activity for Iran as well as for the Da'wah party, especially its military wing which is said to have guidance distinct from that of the political wing.

As we have indicated, the party has a military wing and a political wing. Some members of the party have said that the military elements receive training in Iran, Lebanon, and one of the Arab states which neighbors Iraq and which is sympathetic to the Iranian regime.

However, the political wing of the party is governed by a political committee that directs its activities and prints its publications. The publication

THE MONTHLY POLITICAL REPORT is considered the most prominent of these publications. It is published by the Da'wah Party Center for Political Studies. This monthly report contains several sections, all aimed at the same thing--condemning all Arab regimes except the Libyan regime and another well-known Arab regime. It appears that the principles of the Iranian revolution, in the view of the political committee, are exemplary principles.

#### Basic Principles:

By persuing the party's magazines and other publications we find the basic principles held by this party. Among the most important are:

- 1 - Political loyalty to the government of the Iranian revolution.
- 2 - Confrontation to the Government of Iraq and the governments facing Iran on the Arabian Gulf.
- 3 - The use of violence to export what is called "the Islamic revolution on the Iranian model."
- 4 - Belief that the Islamic movements are branches that must follow the parent movement in Iran where the supreme authority lies. (This is a strange element and an imposition which the Islamic movements will avoid due to differences over the fundamental concept of Da'wah activity.)

The party's publications claim that an Islamic revolution led by the party must have a constituent assembly. Therefore, this movement has a supreme constituent assembly that prints a monthly publication called AL-KASHIF. It is a political magazine whose publication is supervised by the Tenth Political Committee. As for the whereabouts of the members of the constituent assembly, they travel between Iran and one of the Arab countries.

This constituent assembly has an official spokesman, Muhammad Baqir al-Hakim, who holds press conferences in certain Western capitals. Occasionally he is seen on Iranian television.

Approximately one year ago, the Da'wah party issued what it called the "Founding Communique of the Supreme Council," which focused on:

- 1 - The intention of political and military action to harass and bring down the Government of Iraq.
- 2 - A claim that an Islamic course would be adhered to in military action.
- 3 - An effort to recruit Islamic forces, whether Sunni or Shi'ite, in various countries.
- 4 - A belief that the Islamic Republic of Iran provides a base and principles on which the party relies for its proselytizing positions. The party also supports Iran's proselytizing positions.

#### Activities in the Arab World:

The Da'wah party has numerous branches and fronts that at times are obviously [linked to the party], and at times are hidden behind a cover of student organizations. Following are some of the branches of the party.

- 1 - The Da'wah party (Iraq branch).
- 2 - The Da'wah party (Bahrain branch). It sometimes calls itself the Islamic Front for the Liberation of Bahrain.
- 3 - The Da'wah party (Lebanon branch).
- 4 - The Da'wah party (Syria branch).
- 5 - The Da'wah party (England branch).
- 6 - The Da'wah party (West Germany branch).
- 7 - The Da'wah party (United States and Canada branch).

The other forms of the party include:

- 1 - The Islamic Federation of Iraqi Students.
- 2 - The Islamic Federation of Bahraini Students.
- 3 - The Islamic Federation of Students of the Arabian Peninsula.
- 4 - Al-Husayniyah Organization, headquartered in New York.
- 5 - Al-Ja'fari Organization of North America, headquartered in New York.
- 6 - The Central Islamic Organization, headquartered in New York.

The party and its branches publish a number of monthly magazines including:

- 1.- AL-KASHIF. This is a monthly magazine published in London.
- 2 - AL-SIRAT. This is published in West Germany.
- 3 - AL-SHAHADAH. This is published by the Supreme Council of waht is called "The Islamic Revolution."
- 4 - LIWA' AL-SADR.
- 5 - SAWT AL-ITTIHAD. This is published by what is called The Islamic Federation of Iraqi Students in West Germany.

As was noted, the Da'wah party operates in Europe and America where its branches try to attract students from the Ja'fari sect. The party, through



its student societies, has held conferences and symposiums on various occasions. The party seized the occasion of 'Ashura' [Shi'ite holiday held annually on 10 Muharram to mourn the martyrdom of Husayn] to gather students who are studying in the West in order to organize them at the proper time.

[27 Dec 83 pp 18-19]

In the last issue we presented the most outstanding known aspects of the Islamic Da'wah party, which first emerged in Iraq and has, at the present time, been adopted by the government of the Iranian revolution as a tool for exporting the Iranian revolution to the Arab region.

Today we would like to present the reader with aspects of the revolutionary and constitutional dogma of the Da'wah party. But first we must point out that the founders of the Da'wah party, who belong to the Ja'fari sect, were linked to those who believed that the supreme authority was Muhsin al-Hakim from al-Najaf in Iraq. He is the father of the current official spokesman of the so-called Iraqi Islamic revolution (the Da'wah party), Muhammad Baqir al-Hakim. Members of the Da'wah party in the region consider him subordinate to the high Iranian authority, Khomeyni.

It appears that the principle of the authority figure in the Da'wah party is a firm belief that encompasses two fundamental, irrevocable premises. These are, according to the party:

1 - During this era of the great absence, that is, the absence of the Mahdi, a supreme authority--and in the view of the party this supreme authority is Khomeyni--must govern all of the countries of the Islamic World and manage their affairs. This supreme authority would be assisted by governments that rule under the guidance of what is called the "true authority." (AL-KASHIF No 42, July 1983,)

2 - All Islamic groupings must be called upon to rally under the leadership of the supreme authority (Khomeyni) so that rule can be turned over to the oppressed who will, in their turn, surrender it to the Mahdi, in accordance with the belief of the party, which is the belief of the Shai.

The Da'wah party seizes the opportunity of great Islamic gatherings to raise these two principles. It did so in a communique during the pilgrimage to the Holy Mosque in Mecca in 1402 A.H. (1982 A.D.) in disregard of the fact that the Sunnis do not hold the same belief because it is not mentioned in the Qur'an or the Sunna of the Prophet.

#### Mission of the Constituent Assembly:

The Da'wah party held the notion of a supreme authority before it had a constituent assembly. However, the situation changed after the advent of Khomeyni and the murder of Muhammad Baqir al-Sadr who was known as the leader of the party in Iraq and abroad. He was assisted by his sister,



Bint al-Huda, who prompted the founders of the party to form a constituent assembly at the beginning of 1403 A.H. (1983 A.D.). Issue number 36 of the publication AL-KASHIF defines the mission of the assembly as follows:

1 - To establish a government under the leadership of the Just and Holy Jurist Khomeyni and none other.

2 - To consider Iran the base and foundation and not merely a temporary tactical factor. This is a fundamental and firm position that must be adhered to by all groups of the Islamic movement. It is a legitimate duty for all Muslims, wherever they may be, to consider the Islamic movement an inseparable part of the Iranian revolution.

3 - To maintain the assembly's ties to the Iranian revolution and the state of the Just Jurist. This will guarantee sound progress.

If the above-mentioned points are the mission of the assembly, then this means that the Da'wah party seeks two things that are not accepted by the Sunnis or by the community. They are:

1 - A constitutional link to the supreme authority which the party believes is represented by none other than Khomeyni. This link includes the imposition of the so-called "wisdom of the supreme authority" on the nation in terms of Islamic law, since the interpretations of the authority represent genuine legislation. Therefore, this desire to link the Islamic nation in accordance with the view of the constituent assembly will not be accepted by the community and the Sunnis and their movements, which only believe in the legislation of God the Exalted and Sublime, and the Prophet, may God bless him and grant him salvation.

2 - A political link between the Islamic nation and the state of Iran and the latter's guidance. The Da'wah party believes that in this is peace for the Islamic nation. Although the party's link with political guidance from Iran provides it with a kind of stimulus, as they claim, the Sunnis and the community object to this guidance and political linkage.

#### Reading of the Founding Communique:

In order to complete our view of the Da'wah party's philosophy, we can examine the following points in the founding communique which the party issued on 18 November 1982 under the title "The Founding Communique of the Iranian Revolution."

1 - The communique states the belief that the government of Islam is the government of the authority [Khomeyni] only. Other governments have been imposed by the United States and England in particular.

2 - The communique states the belief that the Iranian revolution represents the axis of truth and that all else is invalid.

3 - The Iranian revolution is a worldwide Islamic revolution. The worldwide aspect of it will be achieved by other regions joining with it.

4 - In mentioning the Holy War of the Muslim ulem during the colonialist period, the communique limits its discussion to the ulema of the Ja'fari sect, forgetting that the exalted Sunni ulema played the greatest role in removing colonialism from all of the Arab countries.

5 - The communique states the belief that there is a so-called Islamic revolution outside of Iran, and it hints that it is present in Iraq to bring down the number one enemy of the Iranian regime.

6 - The communique states that Khomeyni, by sparking the revolution in Iran, is the embodiment of the aspirations of the Islamic Nation for "freedom, independence and honor."

7 - The communique states that the first activity of the masses was in Iraq under the leadership of Muhsin al-Hakim and the planning of Muhammad Baqir al-Sadr.

8 - The communique states that the revolution has stages. The stage following victory will begin with the opening up to what is called "the good powers."

If the founding communique was issued to define the philosophical view of the party and its leaders, then this philosophical view is not accepted by the community and the Sunnis. Besides, such a philosophy imposes itself on all Islamic movements across the board. In terms of principles, it condemns all movements that are not tied to the Iranian revolution and considers them invalid, and it ascribes validity only to Khomeyni's revolution in Iran.

The party appears to have surrendered completely to the Khomeyni theory and says that this is a comprehensive Islamic theory. Meanwhile, all other Islamic movements in the world are seeking a description of a comprehensive Islam as defined only by the Qur'an and the Sunna of the Prophet.

The confusion of Khomeynism with Islam is obvious in the party's publications. One of the party's poets expresses this when he says: "This is your generation, the generation of Islam; with Islam it marches as fire marches on the edge of a sword; and with Khomeyni it knows the face of death without fear."

By perusing the communiques and publications issued by the Da'wah party, we find a confusion of the ideas of Khomeynism and Islam:

1 - The party, in its communiques and publications, states the necessity of the Islamic nation's loyalty only to the supreme authority (Khomeyni).

2 - The party's communiques view the Iranian revolution as the truth and all else as invalid. The publications grant only Khomeyni the right to manage the affairs of all Muslims.

Thus Islam, in the view of the Da'wah party, is confined to Khomeynism, which requires that all Muslims be absorbed in it. This question of absorbing all other Muslims is an issue that the Da'wah party is persistent about. Even the party's publications have stated that the fall of Bani Sadr and Qotbzadeh, who were confidants of Khomeyni, was a result of their weak "absorption" and lack of identity with the Imam. Therefore, they fell as his enemies.

If this is the party's view of the reason for the fall of Bani Sadr and Qotbzadeh, then what is the party's view of the hundreds of millions of Muslims throughout the Islamic world who will never devote any loyalty to Khomeyni?

12608

CSO: 4404/268

BRIEFS

LCAN FOR YAR-PDRY PROJECT--The Arab Fund for Social and Economic Development in Kuwait has extended a loan of 1.2 million Kuwaiti dinars to finance a PDRY-YAR joint project to develop natural resources. [Summary] [GF171944 Aden Domestic Service in Arabic 1630 GMT 17 Feb 84]

IBD-JORDAN AGREEMENT--An agreement was signed at the headquarters of Islamic Bank for Development (IBD) in Jidda today, according to which the bank will finance a foreign trade operation to import crude oil for Jordan worth \$20 million. The agreement was signed on the IBD side by its chairman Dr Ahmad Muhammad 'Ali and on the side of the Jordanian Government by its ambassador to the kingdom Hani Bahjat Tabbarah. [Text] [GF081956 Riyadh Domestic Service in Arabic 1800 GMT 7 Feb 84]

JORDANIAN CREDIT TO IRAQ--Jordan has granted Iraq an open line of credit to use during 1984 amounting to \$125 million, according to a statement from the president of the Central Bank of Jordan, Muhammad Sa'id Nabulsi. The statement was issued after a meeting the Jordanian official held with the president of the Central Bank of Iraq, Mr Haasan Najafi. Mr Nabulsi said that it is for the importation of Jordanian goods and services, and for repayment of loans Jordan has previously extended to Iraq. Half of this loan will be interest-free, and interest on the other half is not to exceed six percent. Jordan has previously extended similar credit to Iraq in the amount of \$65 million. [Text] [London AL-TADAMUN in Arabic No 39, 7 Jan 84 p 28] 9310

CSO: 4404/290

## SPANISH MILITARY CONTRACTS REPORTED

Paris AFRICA DEFENCE in English No 37, Sep 83 pp 50, 52, 53

[Article by R. G. Frost and J. de Lestapis: "Egypt: Spain's Contracts of the Pyramids"]

[Text]

**Spanish defence manufacturers have good reason to be happy with their performance in 1982 — a year that saw three of them announcing contracts with Egypt which together represent Spain's biggest-ever export order, worth some 1008 million dollars. Enasa-Pegaso, Bazan and Santana each announced deals for the supply of equipment to Egypt in what has been nick-named, « The contract of the Pyramids».**

In addition to these contracts, Empresa Nacional Santa-Barbara and CASA are negotiating the supply of military equipment to Egypt.

It was on July 27, 1982 that Enasa-Pegaso announced its contract with the Egyptian armed forces for the supply of 600 armoured vehicles, 3 000 type-3046/10 all-terrain trucks and 700 type-5063 DR/2 coaches. This deal is worth 400 million dollars. The same day, the Bazan shipyards announced a 584 million dollar deal for the supply to Egypt of eight warships: two Descubierta-class corvettes, worth 300 million dollars, for delivery in 1983-84 and six 357-tonne Cormoran-class patrol boats for delivery in 1984-85. The third company of the successful trio, Santana, had - according to Spanish Vice-President and Minister of the Economy and Commerce, Mr Juan Antonio Garcia Diez, on his return from Egypt on August 21 — won a contract worth 24 million dollars for the supply to Egypt of 2 000 type-109 petrol-driven Land-Rovers. During his visit to Egypt, the Minister was accompanied by Mr Carlos Bustelo, President of the INI (Instituto Nacional des Industria), and Mr Juan Arenas, Spanish government export director.

For Enasa-Pegaso, it was the third contract with Egypt in little more than a year. On April 15, 1981, a contract was signed for the supply of 2 650 type-3046/10 170hp trucks and 500 type-5063 DR/2 coaches, for delivery over

1981-83. This deal is worth 180 million dollars. « Enasa was in competition with Magirus Deutz (West Germany), Fiat (Italy), and American Motors (USA)», said Mr Augusto Guitard, director of the military division of Enasa, who indicated that some of the vehicles would be built in Egypt.

The first delivery was made in November 1981 aboard the Rivainfanzon which left Barcelona for Alexandria. In March 1982, the 1 000th lorry was delivered and by December 31, 1982, a total of 4 510 type 3046/10 lorries and 500 type-5063 DR/2 coaches had been delivered. A total of 5 000 trucks had been delivered by April 1983.

The second contract, worth 279 million dollars, was signed in July 1981, for the delivery between 1981-83 of 5 000 type-3046/10 trucks. The vehicles under the third contract, worth 400 million dollars, are to be delivered over 1983-85 and bring the total of the company's business with Egypt to 859 million dollars covering 10 650 trucks, 1 200 coaches and 600 306hp amphibious BMR armoured vehicles.

Fifteen to 20 % of the total sum covers spare parts, training and maintenance equipment.

The BMR underwent five months of rigorous trials in Egypt, including 22 days in the desert near the Libyan frontier, against stiff competition from Fiat, Mowag, RVI — with the VAB — GiAT, Cadillac Gage, GKN,



Sibmas, Panhard, Alvis — with the Scorpion — and FMC — with the M113A2. Eighty-three per cent of the BMR's ordered by Egypt, who confirmed the contract in August 1982, but which came into force at the end of May 1983, are APC, command post, radio communications, ambulance and reconnaissance versions and 17% are fighting versions. APC versions will be armed with the CETME 7.62 mm or other machine gun and an ENOSA sight; the reconnaissance versions with cannon, and the fighting version with a Santa Barbara 90 mm gun or with a one or two-man turret by FMC, Emerson or Cadillac Gage, armed with 20 or 30 mm cannon.

### The Enasa vehicles

Introduced in 1979, the BMR comprises a family of 6 × 6 armoured vehicles designed for various missions but with a high degree of commonality to facilitate logistics and maintenance. The BMR, developed to meet the needs of the Spanish Army, exists in the following versions:

- armoured personnel carrier with capacity for 13 troops, including the driver;
- command post vehicle with suitable communications equipment;
- fire support vehicle armed with 20 or 25 mm cannon;
- mortar carrier (weight 14 tonnes) for an 81 mm or 105 mm weapon;
- logistical support vehicle with a payload of 2 500 kg;
- ambulance vehicle with space for four stretchers and three medical personnel;
- workshop vehicle;
- armoured reconnaissance fighting vehicle armed with 20 or 25 mm cannon and a 7.62 mm machine gun;
- platform for anti-tank missiles;
- short-range air defence vehicle armed either with the Meroka multi-barrel cannon system or a twin-cannon turret;
- armoured fighting vehicle equipped with a two-man turret. With a turret armed with a 90 mm gun, this version's weight is 14 tonnes.

The APC version weighs 11.5 tonnes unloaded and has a combat weight of 13.5 tonnes; it is aeroportable. It measures 6150 × 2500 × 2000 mm while the reconnaissance vehicle measures 6250 × 2500 × 2000 mm. The BMR is constructed as a single unit, without chassis, from aluminium alloy armour which has great qualities of rigidity. It is proof against direct fire by individual automatic fire weapons and against shell splinters from near bursts. The watertight body encloses all the main working parts except for the wheels and their

transmissions. The underside of the hull is absolutely flat; it is composed of two layers of aluminium with a 15 mm gap between them which forms a protection against mine explosions. This system also protects the gear box, transfer box and axles not only against explosions, but also against damage by obstacles during cross-country travel.

The vehicle is powered by a six-cylinder, turbocharged Pegaso 9157/8 diesel engine of 306hp; power/weight ratio is 22hp/tonne. There are six forward gears and one reverse with automatic change. Top road speed is 110 km/h and petrol consumption is 35 litres per 100 km. The BMR's fuel capacity is 300 litres and road range is 900 km. It can tackle gradients of 80%, side slopes of 30%, gaps 1.20 m deep and obstacles 60 cm high. The independent suspension, power/weight ratio and the fact that all the main driving parts except the wheels are enclosed means the BMR can quickly attain high speed and yet remain quiet. These qualities, combined with the low silhouette (2 m) make the BMR a particularly discrete vehicle. The BMR is amphibious, being able without preparation to travel at up to 4.5 km/h in water. With the installation of an amphibious kit including hydrojets, it can reach 10 km/h. It is this version which underwent trials in Egypt.

In its APC version, the BMR carries 13 men, made up of the driver and an infantry section which has 6.5 m<sup>3</sup> of space available to it. There are four firing ports, one on each side and two at the rear. According to the version, the BMR has a ramp door or a single swing door at the rear. It is NBC protected.

•The Pegaso 3046/10 all-terrain truck is a 4 × 4 powered by a 170hp Pegaso diesel engine with six forward gears and one reverse, equipped with a transfer box. The engine produces a maximum of 125 kW at 2 600 rpm. Top speed is 96 km/h on road and 55 km/h cross-country. Empty weight is 6 500 kg with a payload of 5 000 kg on road and 3 000 kg cross-country with a towing capacity of 4 500 kg both on and off road. It is 5.67 m long.

•The 5063 DR/2 coach can carry 46 passengers, plus driver. Powered by a six-cylinder diesel engine of 135hp, it has a maximum speed of 104 km/h. Its maximum loaded weight is 13.2 tonnes and it is 10.1 m long and 2.37 wide.

• Enasa has sold vehicles for civilian use in Africa to the following countries: Algeria, Angola, Congo, Egypt, Equatorial Guinea, Gabon, Guinea, Libya, Mauritania, Morocco, Senegal, Sudan, Tunisia and Upper Volta.

### The Santana Land-Rover

• The type-109 Land-Rover, a 4 × 4 all-terrain light vehicle, is built by Santana



under British licence. It measures  $4.445 \times 1.69 \times 1.92$  metres, with a ground clearance of 0.209 m. The coachwork is in aluminium. Space available in the rear compartment is  $1.85 \times 1.46$  m. Empty weight is 1.567 tonnes and payload is 907 kg on road and 816 kg cross-country. Two petrol-driven engines are available: either a six-cylinder engine of 2 625 cc developing 57.5 kW (77 hp) at 4 400 rpm or a four-cylinder of 2 286 cc developing 52.2 kW (70.9 hp) at 4 000 rpm, linked to a five-speed gearbox. The fuel tank has a 68-litre capacity.

### The Bazan ships

- The Descubierta-class corvettes — of which one is undergoing trials for Morocco — which the Egyptian Navy should receive in 1983 and 1984 are the seventh (Centinela F-37, put on the slipway on 31.10.1978; launched on 6.7.1979) and the eighth (Serviola F-38) ships of this class ordered by the Spanish Navy. Because of the delivery dates requested by Egypt, the Spanish Navy has accepted that the two vessels should go to the former, this decision being made easier by the fact that like other Western countries, Spain is facing financial restraints.

The Descubiertas under construction for the Spanish Navy at the El Ferrol shipyards have a minimum displacement of 1 240 tonnes and 1 497 tonnes in service. They measure 88.88 metres overall (85 m at the waterline) by 10.4 wide, with a depth of 6.2 m and have a draught of 3.8 m. Motorisation is by four MTU/Bazan MA 16V956TB91 diesel engines, developing a total of 16 000 hp (11 768 kW) and 18 000 when turbocharged, driving two Alexander Stephens variable pitch propellers. These ships have a maximum intermittent speed of 28 knots a maximum continuous speed of 24.5 knots and a cruising speed of 18 knots. Range is 6 100 nautical miles at 16 knots or 4 000 m at 18 knots. The Spanish ships are armed with four Harpoon sea-to-sea missiles, an eight-launcher Sea Sparrow or Albatros sea-to-air system, an Oto Melara 76/62 mm Compact gun, two Bofors/Breda 40 L 70 mm guns, two Meroka 12-barrel 20 mm air defence cannon systems, a double Bofors 375 mm ASW rocket launcher, and two triple MK-32 torpedo launchers. Electronics include an HSA DA-05 search/surveillance/air-surface alert radar, two CSEE optical fire directors, a Raytheon DE-110B towed sonar, ESM/ECM systems, an HSA WM-25 fire control radar and an HSA ZW-06 navigation radar.

Crew is made up of 148 men, including 10 officers, 18 petty officers and 30 marines.

The armament of the Egyptian ships could be modified to include either Harpoon, Otomat Mk-2 or Aérospatiale MM-40

sea-to-sea missiles and Selenia Albatros/Aspide in place of the Sea Sparrow. The Meroka point defence system would be dropped. Decoy launchers will be supplied by Wallop (UK).

- The steel-hulled Cormoran-class fast patrol boats displace 357 tonnes and have a maximum intermittent speed of 35 knots, with a continuous maximum speed of 32 knots. They measure  $52.02 \times 7.54 \times 1.87$  m. Motorisation is by three MTU/Bazan 16V956 TB 91 diesel engines developing a total of 13 500 hp. Range is 2 000 nm at 15.5 knots. Armament includes an Oto Melara 76/62 mm gun, a Breda Bofors 40 L 70 gun and four anti-ship missiles. Crew is 30 men.

The letter of intention for purchase of these ships was signed by the Egyptian government in June 1982, was confirmed last October and included an option for two Descubierta corvettes to be confirmed within a year. The contract was to have been confirmed by a down payment last December.

### Financing of the contracts

Eighty-five per cent of the 1982 Enasa and Bazan contracts, worth 984 million dollars, will be financed by an export credit supplied by the Banco Exterior de España, of which part is at a rate of interest of 8.5% and part at 10% over 10 years. The other 15% is financed by a FAD (Fondo de Aduya al Desarrollo) credit granted by the government financial institution on the base of 5.5% interest over 20 years. In terms of value, planned delivery is as follows: in 1983, 220 million dollars of material; in 1984, 310 million dollars; in 1985, 230 million dollars; in 1986, 150 million dollars; in 1987, 67 million dollars. These contracts were prepared with a guarantee by a consortium of Saudi Arabian banks lead by Saudi businessman, Mr Khassogi.

### Contract delays

A lot of ink has been used up since the official announcement in July 1982 of the contracts for the Enasa-Pegaso BMR armoured vehicles and the Bazan ships. Confirmation of the letters of intention, then delays in their becoming effective, payment of advances, credits to unblock... these difficulties followed one after the other at such a pace that some observers began to doubt that the contracts would in fact go ahead.

The problems now however seem to have been ironed out and with some modifications, the contracts are effective, the delay being due to the Spanish government financing which was linked to the country's budget. This latter has now been passed in June.

### **Letters of intention confirmed**

On July 1, Bazan received confirmation from Egypt regarding the acquisition of the Descubierta class corvettes Centinela and Serviola, to be delivered in eight and 13 months respectively. The Egyptian Navy has not yet made a final choice on the missile and electronic systems to be installed. The option for a further two corvettes and the acquisition of the Cormoran-class missile craft is to be renegotiated over the next few months.

As far Enasa-Pegaso is confirmed, a rider to the 1982 contract was added on May 28 confirming the acquisition of 250 BMR-600 P of the 600 originally previewed. These first 250 are in troop carrier, ambulance, CP and radio versions. Choice of machine gun mounted on a cupola, the VHF/UHF, night vision equipment and special systems has been made. They are for delivery from the end of the year into 1984. The 350 other BMRs, for delivery between now and 1985, will be ordered by the Egyptian Army as they are needed according to a programme it has established. Choice of versions and weapon systems has yet to be defined.

CSO: 4500/36

## ELECTRONIC WARFARE CAPABILITY FOR NAVY DESCRIBED

Paris AFRICA DEFENCE in English No 39, Nov 83 pp 42, 44

[Text]

**Egypt's Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Defence and War Production, Field Marshal Abu Ghazala, in a speech earlier this year at the inauguration at Alexandria of the British defence manufacturers' floating exhibition, singled out for special praise the Ramadan-class fast attack craft built for the Egyptian Navy by Vosper Thornycroft (UK). These, he said, had proved to be excellent and highly efficient (ADJ n°33). For these ships and the October-class fast attack craft converted by Vosper Thornycroft, the Egyptian Navy laid down demanding requirements regarding electronic warfare capability. The British company charged with meeting this challenge was Racal-Decca. African Defence Journal reproduces below an article on this project which appeared in Electronics for Defence n°2, the journal of the Racal defence companies.**

In 1972 the Egyptian military market was tentatively opened to the West and since then Racal companies have provided the Egyptian Navy with its post-Soviet supplied electronic warfare capability. In the early days, manual or semi automatic ESM systems provided sufficient capability for older and less vulnerable weapon platforms serving in the Egyptian armed forces. The first Racal-Decca RDL systems were considerably more effective than any existing systems for detecting and analysing possible enemy radar transmissions from submarines and surface ships.

During 1975, two circumstances occurred which affected the future of ship EW systems in general and the Egyptian naval capability in particular. First Racal-Decca was engaged in resolving its policy for future naval EW systems at home and overseas and had developed and supplied jammers to take advantage of ESM derived intelligence to counter enemy weapon systems. However, the threat was changing, not only for the traditionally sophisticated navies but also for the third world and emerging navies. These navies were particularly concerned with the dangers of slow manual interception and countermeasures equipment in modern warfare. Incidents directly affecting Middle Eastern nations were to bring home the real possibility that man was too slow in threat

assessment and as a consequence, too slow to protect his ship against radar guided enemy attack. The maximum warning period was down to tens of seconds and reaction time had to be improved.

Second, the Egyptian Navy in the meantime was planning to improve its naval capability by converting its Egyptian-built fast patrol boats (based on the Soviet Komar-class) to missile craft and to procure six modern fast strike craft.

As their closest contacts in the western world Racal began a long series of discussions with the country's multi-service EW committees to develop the new EW systems. The systems were based on Racal-Decca's plans for its future fully automatic, processor controlled EW suites. Encouraged by the Egyptian dedication to automated equipment, the company continued its ambitious development programme culminating in the design and manufacture of the Cutlass series of ESM systems. Cutlass was fitted to the first October class boats converted by Vosper Thornycroft Limited in Portsmouth.

The task of the ESM processor was enormous and at the edge of technological possibility at that time. The company believed that intercept probability (not missing anything) was of paramount importance for weapon system survival and

therefore decided to use wide-band, wide-open receiving techniques leaving the processing at the mercy of every radar pulse the environment could inflict on it. Every pulse had to be labelled with its radio frequency, its direction of arrival, its time of arrival and pulse width. Every pulse had to be sorted using these and other parameters including frequency and pulse interval agility and scan pattern. Finally, having grouped all the pulses into radars, the characteristics of each had to be compared with a library of hostile and friendly signatures and the identification displayed unambiguously to the operator.

The second phase of the Egyptian Navy plans overlapped the first and in 1978 Vosper Thornycroft received a contract for six Ramadan class craft to be designed and built at Portsmouth. To the original October boat ESM specification were added refinements, improvements and a very powerful ECM capability.

The Ramadan ESM systems were to have improved sensitivity. This meant greater range capability and earlier warning but it also resulted in more pulses hitting the pre-processor and even faster processor operation. The only equivalent systems attempted at this time anywhere in the world either narrowed down the instantaneous bandwidth of the system or took «snapshots», of the environment prior to processing, to slow down the data flow into the front of the system. With Cutlass, no compromise was to be made in intercept probability and fast pre-processing techniques, complex algorithms and very high speed general processing were used to handle high density radar environments. But what was this environment? Racal with the help and co-operation of Vosper Thornycroft conducted trials in the English Channel, continuously refining the software and system performance to meet with the

requirement of a very demanding Egyptian Navy. After delivery of the first two craft from Portsmouth to Alexandria, trials continued in the UK but were supplemented by operational trials in the Mediterranean. This resulted in further software adjustments to meet performance specifications no matter what the various geographical areas could produce in the way of radar density and adverse environments. Racal, the Egyptian Navy and Vosper Thornycroft worked together to satisfy the needs for modern radar threat warning and succeeded. The Ramadan class boats now have one of the most advanced ESM systems providing very fast reaction times to threats as well as sophisticated surveillance in times of lower tension.

In parallel, the ECM for the Ramadan class boats was refined from existing Racal-Decca products to meet the exacting requirements of the Egyptian Navy. A sophisticated Racal-Decca jammer produces the highest effective power currently possible against targets automatically designated from the Cutlass ESM system. Within a second, an ESM intercept which is an imminent threat to the ship is highlighted and designated, automatically or manually, to the ECM equipment without operator interference. The ECM is then ready to direct power at the target automatically using the most effective ECM modulation technique against the identified threat. No matter how that threat moves in azimuth and elevation, it cannot shake off the beam which is denying its weapon systems the information to launch missiles and other weapons against the target.

The full capability of the EW suite on board Ramadan craft cannot be revealed. It can be said with confidence, that Racal is proud to be associated with Egypt and to have helped them to deploy an effective EW capability on Ramadan and future craft.

SUBSIDIES FOR COOPERATIVES PROPOSED

Cairo AL-AHRAM in Arabic 27 Nov 83 p 9

[Article by Nihal Shukri: "A New Law To Subsidize Cooperatives and Activate Their Economic Role: Egyptian Cooperative System Includes 5 Central Associations, 15 Million Members, 3 Institutes, 1 Newspaper Publishing House; the General Federation of Cooperatives Is a New National Agency To Control and Regulate the Cooperative Movement"]

[Text] A new bill is currently being drafted to shore up Egypt's cooperative system which includes 5 central cooperative associations, three higher institutes for cooperative studies and a newspaper publishing house. These cooperative associations have about 15 million members; that is one third of Egypt's population.

The aim of the bill is to restore the spirit of cooperation, coordination, planning and integration among cooperatives so that the objectives of Egypt's cooperative movement can be realized in the context of financial and economic reform.

Mr Sayyid Zaki, vice president of the People's Assembly and president of the Central Association of Cooperatives for Producers will introduce a bill during the present session of the People's Assembly to establish the General Federation of Cooperatives which will have about 15 million members, representing about one third of Egypt's population. The General Federation of Cooperatives would include the Association of Cooperatives for Producers, the Association of Cooperatives for Consumers, the Association of Agricultural Cooperatives, the Association of Housing Cooperatives and the Association of Cooperatives for Water Resources.

Mr Muhammad Rashad, a member of the Association of Agricultural Cooperatives and the Association of Cooperatives for Consumers spoke about the importance of establishing the General Federation of Cooperatives. "Today the presence of the General Federation of Cooperatives has become a matter of urgent necessity; it is a pressing need for the cooperative movement in Egypt. The federation would assume its responsibilities of thinking about and making plans for the movement, and it would work to coordinate activities among all sectors of the cooperative movement."

There are now about 20,000 cooperative societies in Egypt functioning in the areas of agriculture, consumption, housing, craftsmanship, water resources and services. These cooperatives have about 15 million members; that is almost one third of Egypt's population.



These societies, however, function like isolated islands; there is neither coordination nor cooperation linking them. At the same time attempts are being made to unify operations in the cooperative movement worldwide. For example, the original objective of consumer cooperatives was to market the produce and products of agricultural and crafts cooperatives to reduce prices. That is what has not yet been achieved in Egypt. Cooperatives did not succeed in fulfilling the purpose for which they were created: to do away with middlemen, achieve abundant production at moderate prices and stay away from all methods of exploitation.

Agricultural cooperatives constitute the best mechanism through which this objective can be achieved and food security provided.

The original objective in housing cooperatives was to confront the housing shortage in earnest and provide healthy, suitable housing for people on fixed incomes. So far, none of this has been realized. In fact, the opposite has happened, and that has contributed to the rise of prices for housing units and for land for construction.

As far as cooperatives for consumers are concerned, they were to be the proper mechanism for regulating domestic trade. There were to be no interventions and no exploitation by middlemen. However, they failed to achieve that result because there was no coordination and no cooperation on the part of agricultural and crafts cooperatives which did not keep the promises they made.

Thus, there appears to be an inconsistency in the cooperative movement even though it has all the components for success. The cooperative movement has a broad membership of about 15 million members; it has five central cooperative associations; three higher cooperative institutes; and a cooperative newspaper publishing firm. It is therefore inevitable that there be a seat of thought controlling the operations of the cooperative system as a whole. That seat of thought is the General Federation of Cooperatives which would bring about abundance of production, good quality products and reductions in prices.

There are urgent and important tasks awaiting the General Federation of Cooperatives. Chief among these tasks are those of drafting a standard law for cooperatives, establishing a cooperative bank to subsidize cooperative projects and shoring up the cooperative press and cooperative education.

Justice Shams-al-Din Khafaji, president of the Association for Cooperative Housing and the Association of Cooperatives for Consumers had this to say about the need to establish the General Federation of Cooperatives: "The International Alliance of Cooperatives issued a resolution to have a new principle added [to its set of principles]: it is that of achieving cooperation among members of cooperatives. This principle applies to individuals and to cooperative organizations as well. It means that before these cooperative organizations adopt the cooperative idea in their sectors, there is to be cooperation primarily between various cooperative activities. Accordingly, that requires the presence of a general federation of cooperatives to coordinate these activities.

Justice Shams-al-Din Khafaji offers an example of the present lack of coordination among cooperative sectors. He says, "The cooperative sector for the production of crafts sells its products to the private sector and not to the consumer



cooperative sector. This is really strange! It only achieves the opposite of the presumed goal for the existence of a cooperative for crafts, which is to reduce prices."

The Association of Agricultural Cooperatives gives its products to wholesale merchants and not to consumer cooperative stores. This is due to the fact that those merchants furnish seeds to members of agricultural societies and extend advances to them in return for getting the entire crop. This is how wholesale merchants control the market. Ultimately, the cooperative sector for consumers is also forced to get what it needs from the merchants and not from the Association of Agricultural Cooperatives. It is this that makes merchants control the market and keeps prices from falling because middlemen continue to exist.

In cooperative societies for craftsmen, which include construction workers, it is the contractors and not the Associations for Cooperative Housing that hire those workers. That too causes the prices of housing units to rise. All this is due to the absence of a general federation for cooperatives to coordinate [activities] among cooperative sectors.

Dr Kamal Abu-al-Khayr, dean of the Cooperative Institute and member of the International Alliance of Cooperatives had this to say about the need to establish the General Federation of Cooperatives: "The establishment of a general federation of cooperatives will play a prominent role in the development and reorganization of cooperatives for producers. Because there are cooperatives for producers that deal directly in consumer goods, a general federation of cooperatives was able to create in many countries of the world the necessary coordination among cooperatives for producers and particularly among cooperatives for the products of small craftsmen, and that resulted in price reductions."

Mr Sayyid Zaki, vice president of the People's Assembly and president of the Central Association of Cooperatives for Producers says, "There is a national objective that is illustrated in [efforts to] reform the economic course of the 5-Year Plan and achieve higher rates of national production. In turn, the cooperative movement must increase rates of production. This is something that has to be regulated by the draft bill establishing the general federation of cooperatives so that we would have a high-level cooperative agency nationwide."

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CSO: 4504/150

GREATER DEMOCRACY SEEN AS SOLUTION TO FINANCIAL WOES OF REGIONAL PRESS

Cairo AL-JUMHURIYAH in Arabic 10 Jan 84 p 5

[Article by Ahmad Ibrahim al-Sharif: "The Regional Press: Freedom and the Indispensability of Funds"]

[Text] Considerable attention is being devoted these days in Egyptian newspapers to the regional press. This attention is based on the assumption that the regional press provides an illustration of democracy and decentralization. The regional press guarantees local, popular control over executive agencies within its range. It is an authoritative source of information, providing people with news of their region and with [a medium] they can use to express their problems and demands.

Before going into the problem which is our subject now, let me say that this designation, "the regional press and the national press," is quite inaccurate. The press is the press; that's all. If an Aswan newspaper, for example, had wider circulation, it would neither fail nor fall short of maintaining that wide circulation. If these newspapers devote attention to news and problems of their regions, that is only because this is what they can do, and God does not charge anyone with anything more than what he can do.

At any rate, it would be all right to use that designation based on its implication that the mission of regional newspapers is restricted specifically to their region.

That mission, which we previously referred to, requires that the regional press be granted the full freedom that is granted to the press wherever it is so it can carry out its mission. When compared to its counterparts in the central or national press however, the regional press finds itself face to face with a difficult or rather impossible equation. Regional newspapers have a funding problem; they have a problem with being able to preserve their freedom despite their need for funds. We all know the wisdom of our revered scholar who said that he who overextends himself is not to ask for handouts.

Today's press is not what it used to be early in the 20th century, when AL-BALAGH Newspaper had no more variety than large black print or a headline transcribed by a calligrapher. Afterwards, in addition to words, drawings, pictures and colors became indispensable in today's press. All this needs certain kinds of paper,

printing presses that are ready to roll, technical workers, artists, photographers and writers. And all that needs money.

The funds that a small regional newspaper needs are much greater than the funds which AL-AHRAM needed in the twenties and thirties of this century.

International newspapers like THE TIMES are disrupted by the tremendous expenses they incur. What would it be like then for small newspapers like regional newspapers in Egypt?

How can they come out regularly?

How can they satisfy their conscience and not mislead, deceive and cover up?

It seems that awesome technological progress has sentenced the regional and non-regional press to depend on whoever has funds. If they do not, they would have to go back to the technology of the past: they would lose their nature and their reason for being.

What then is the solution?

I believe that the solution lies in democracy because the press is a democratic phenomenon. Democracy is essentially the return of power to subjects who have it in their power to dispose of rulers.

When democracy is established, people can then decide the share their newspapers are to receive from the regional budget. At that time it will be up to no one to withhold or confer those funds.

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## BRIEFS

SUPPLY CARDS DISTRIBUTED--A decision has been made to distribute ration cards to employees of press organizations, the armed forces, the police and judges. These ration cards would entitle these people to receive full subsidies for their staples and thus be treated like government and public sector employees provided they have no other source of income except that which they earn from their jobs. That statement was made by Dr Naji Shatlah, minister of supply. The minister added that these new groups of subsidy beneficiaries will receive green cards even if their salaries were subject to a general income tax. Red ration cards providing partial subsidies will be issued to state employees who receive other income from real estate or farm land that is more than 10 feddans or from other jobs they hold with the permission of the state. The minister of supply said that computers will be used to verify card holders' data and documents. He added that a memorandum was being drafted for review by the Supreme Committee for Policies. That memorandum will identify the groups of people who live on fixed incomes, who do not work for the state and who are entitled to cards providing them with full subsidies. Examples of such groups of people would be owners of small areas of land, craftsmen, grocers and kiosk vendors. [Text] [Cairo AL-AHRAM in Arabic 21 Jan 84 pp 1, 16] 8592

REVOCATION OF ASSEMBLY MEMBERSHIP--The Suggestions and Complaints Committee of the People's Assembly is considering a bill introduced by assembly member, Marawan Tawfiq Shabanah. The bill proposes an amendment to an assembly law that would revoke the membership of an assembly member if he wins his seat in the assembly on the merits of the program of a certain party and then leaves that party and joins another. The committee approved that proposed bill and then turned it over to the Legislative Committee. Many people expect this bill to stir up a legal debate in the hallways of the People's Assembly, particularly since it alludes to partisan and constitutional factors. [Text] [Cairo AL-SIYASI in Arabic 8 Jan 84 p 12] 8592

CSO: 4504/150

UGTT PRESIDENT HABIB ACHOUR INTERVIEWED

Tunis AL-RA'Y in Arabic 6 Jan 84 pp 4, 5

[Interview with Habib Achour, president of the Tunisian General Labor Federation, on 2 January in Tunis, conducted by Abu Bakr al-Saghir: "What is the View of the Labor Leadership and the Rank-and-File on All That is Happening? Is the Crisis in the Federation Growing?"]

[Text] It is certain that the social arena in our country is in the throes of the labor pains of a new trade union structure following the emergence of an important group of basic unions independent of the Tunisian General Labor Federation (UGTT), numbering at the time of this writing 100 unions. In addition, there is the possibility appearing of some regional federations combining these unions during the coming days. All this comes on the heels of the matter concerning the direction taken by the group of "The Seven" who were dismissed from the federation leadership by a decision of the former executive board. Confirming that is Mr Abdel Aziz Bouraoui, who informed us that what is occurring now in the labor arena is the will of the rank-and-file, which is still not satisfied with the direction in which the UGTT is proceeding. Therefore, it alone is the author of the final decision whether or not to adopt a new labor organization.

Moreover, the leadership of the UGTT was not surprised by these developments and indeed concluded them in their calculations, ever since the decision of the former executive board (at the end of last November) in which the possibility of some things like this reaction on the part of "The Seven" was posed.

In order to give additional clarification regarding the position of the federation on this problem, which has become a "national issue," in addition to the view of the labor leadership regarding these serious developments the country is currently witnessing, we contacted Mr Habib Achour, president of the federation and conducted the following interview with him.

[Note: This interview was conducted last Monday evening (2 January 1984), before the declaration of a state of emergency and a nationwide curfew.]

[Question] How do you assess the current social situation in the country, particularly after the recent developments related to the raising of bread prices and eliminating the compensation fund?



[Answer] With respect to the UGTT, there are discussions with the government still going on and have been resumed several times. Some of the time we make progress in these discussions; at other times there is no positive result. This does not mean that we have reached an impasse. Rather, the negotiations are continuing and we are exerting all of our efforts to arrive at a result that benefits the workers. Without a doubt, in these negotiations we are taking into consideration the workers who are not affiliated with the federation and the people in difficult circumstances, and we came to an agreement on them.

[Question] Speaking of the workers and the other groups that are not affiliated with the UGTT, it is known that the federation's last executive board had decided in principle to cancel the compensation fund and demanded the compensation in favor of the workers. Has the federation taken into consideration the other parties who are not from among the workers, like the unemployed and our countrymen in difficult circumstances and the poor?

[Answer] The ruling issued by the last executive board points to these parties, and we have talked about them with the government, which has set a special allotment aside for them that they will receive via the agencies, the local government, and the social security funds. However, the government itself determines the amount.

#### Habib Achour's Dictatorship

[Question] Now that "The Seven" have confirmed their desire to set up independent trade unions and later to move toward setting up a new labor federation, what is the reaction of the UGTT to these developments?

[Answer] I will tell you the truth, with respect to ourselves the officials of the federation, we do not attach great importance to the withdrawal of those brothers and their decision to form an independent trade union, because we the federation are independent and the people know this. I think that their objective is to create a labor organization because they know that they no longer have a share in this federation, in view of several deeds they have committed, and it appeared clear to them in the elections of the leagues and unions which they had been considering their constituency that everything had gone against them and there would be nothing left for them.

They became convinced that their fate in the upcoming conference would be failure. Therefore, this was their reaction, because they see themselves as victims of the dictatorship of Habib Achour, and everyone knows that I am not a dictator. On the contrary, I have my well known union and political capacities and I am not accustomed to oppressing the people, nor to being disrespectful. This is something new. But the fear of impending disappointment caused them to retreat along this path, which does not show courage or personal integrity. It is nothing but a way of getting out of this dilemma in a way that would seem virtuous. But in the eyes of the union members who know them, this is nothing but an escape and cowardice.

[Question] There is an idea circulating among some unionists hinting at the possibility of an initiative by the federation for setting up a Labor party. What is your opinion on this issue?

[Answer] Personally, I do not conceive in my mind of the federation originating or supporting the idea of creating a labor party, because in the federation there is every possibility for a person to think what he wants within the political guidelines. In the party organization there is the executive, the social and the economic affairs [bureaus], and all kinds of liberties. These also exist within the federation and every day it more determinedly and more actively upholds these, because we believe that complete freedom is practiced more in the unions than in the parties.

#### We Are Sorry For Those Who Have Died

[Question] There is a question being raised today, and that is, to what extent is it possible for the recent events recorded in some cities of the republic to undermine the country's social stability?

[Answer] I am much pained by these events and I had been hoping they would not take place. These actions must be halted because our people are decent and do not deserve all this. Indeed, I am sorry for those who have died because God knows what causes motivated them to die. The property that was burned is the people's loss, too. Thus, the souls that were lost with it are the people's loss, and the property, whether belonging to the state or to private citizens, is also the people's loss. Therefore, I regret all that has happened and we look to President Bourguiba to adopt the necessary measures to put a halt to this situation. The means are clear enough.

#### Did Unionists Participate in the Events?

[Question] But were there not a number of unionists in some regional federations who participated in these events in a call for a general strike?

[Answer] I do not know that the regional federations or unions called for a strike, because they know us and their instructions are that we still are negotiating and there is yet no conclusive result. An executive board meeting will be held to look at the results of these negotiations and in light of them positions will be adopted. Thus, there is no regional federation that participated in any active way in the events. If there was participation it was by some unions or individuals taking part in an individual capacity.

#### Regime's Position of "The Seven"

[Question] We come back to the question of "The Seven", the regime's position on them until now remains unclear, especially at the level of its representatives among the local authorities. How does the federation view this?

[Answer] It seems, and I am sure of this, that those "Seven" lied to the prime minister, because they told some workers that they were supported by him, that he was encouraging them, and that he gave instructions to the governors to nominate them. However, I personally contacted the prime minister and he emphatically denied and disavowed this.

#### This Is What Surprises Me

[Question] And the positions of some of the officials in the local authorities?

[Answer] It seems that the Governor of Sfax gave a warm welcome to this group. When they arrive there the doors are opened and they are welcomed. This is his affair, and I do not want to interfere in his affairs. He is free to welcome whom he wants. God knows what information or instructions he has.

[Question] The federation submitted the issues to a number of elements that practiced violence during the events that took place in some of the regional federations. What happened to them?

[Answer] I am sorry to tell you that every issue that we submitted is going no further than the police investigation and this is what surprises me.

[Question] Does this mean that there is collusion on the part of the authorities?

[Answer] No wonder I am forced to think things like this when I get in touch with officials such as Mr Dris Guiga, Merzi Chekir, or Mohamed Mzali, who tell me that they know nothing. But the surprise lies in such as what happened on the COSOP [Sfax Workers' Production Cooperative] issue, whose file remained dormant for six months and not reviewed despite the federation's need for these documents, which obstructs those moving toward mutual cooperation and its countless advantages. We have still until now not obtained them, although we have complained about this matter to the minister of justice.

#### A Word to the Workers

[Question] If you would address a word to the workers in this critical social situation in the columns of our newspaper.

[Answer] What I invite the workers to do is to consider the negotiations going on between us and the authorities and to await the outcome.

If the result is good, it is up to the next executive board to accept it. We will reveal what we have arrived at and the workers will be happy. If it is not so, i.e., unsatisfactory, there is no doubt that the executive board or the national council will determine the position that must be adopted. We in the federation hope that the result will be satisfactory.

# USE OF WALL BY MOROCCANS COMPARED WITH OTHER BARRIERS

Paris AFRICA DEFENCE in English No 34, Jun 83 pp 42-47, 50, 53, 54

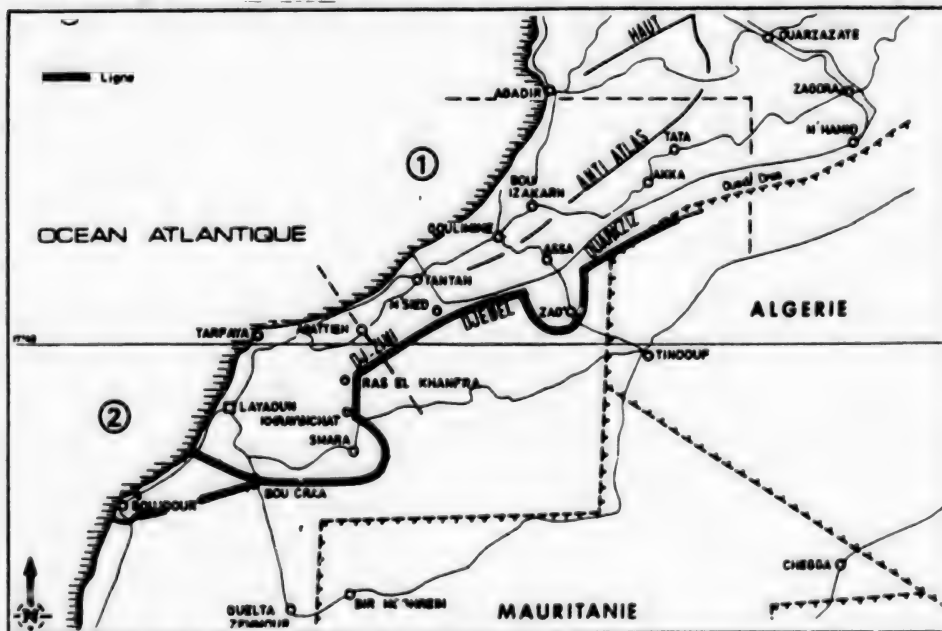
[Article by Bernard Expedit: "Western Sahara: Up Against the Wall"]

[Text] **Hardly an issue of our magazine has been published over the past two years without there being some mention made in the «Africa» column of «the wall» that the Moroccan armed forces have built up in the Western Sahara. This region has been theatre for continued clashes with the troops of the Polisario Front. The erection of this line of surveillance and obstacles marked without any doubt a turning point in the conflict in the Western Sahara, a conflict which has now lasted for nearly seven years. An episode of this magnitude cannot help but attract attention and lead to a certain amount of reflection. It is indeed worthwhile to take a look at how the Moroccans came to implementing this solution, as well as the general process of constituting a line of surveillance and obstacles, of which «the wall» itself is only one particular example. Having examined these points, it is instructive to see what lessons can be drawn within the context of how these operations were conducted, and how they relate to military strategy in general.**

## From partitioning to the line

The «Green March» undertaken by Morocco in the winter of 1975 marked the latter's taking possession of the formerly

colonized Spanish Sahara region, after a period of sharing claims with Mauritania. The proclamation at the beginning of 1976 of the Arab Saharan Democratic Republic by an



The Moroccan wall in the Western Sahara



armed movement, the Polisario Front, a group that had been fighting Spanish rule since 1973, revealed a competitor to Moroccan claims and began the conflict. Finding itself faced with the necessity of occupying the territory militarily, and having taken over the former colonial infra-structure, the Moroccan Army took up positions at the numerous garrisons in traditional partitioning formation, but in a more or less reduced volume according to a schema inherited from the past, some fifty years earlier during the colonial war. The adversary, nomad by nature, and for whom the desert is a no man's land throughout which he travels without bothering with borders that have less a basis in reality, on the actual terrain, than on the maps of chancelleries continued to ignore the borders. They found a variety of support from their neighbours and set up, inspired by the famous «*rezzou*», or raiding parties of the past, a light motorized network, a talented direct descendant of the British Long Range Desert Group which lived its hour of glory in Tripolitania some forty years ago.

Using light Land Rovers or Toyotas armed with heavy machine guns, 81 mm mortars and 106 mm recoilless guns, and benefitting from automatic and guided anti-aircraft systems, as well as multiple rocket launchers, the 5000 or so members of the Polisario rapidly established uncontested control of the area. They circulated throughout the region at will between the outposts, harassing, bombarding, setting ambushes or launching lightning surprise attacks, and then slipping away more often than not from an adversary that was weighted down with heavier equipment, whose troops were sparsely scattered over a large area and whose aviation, although in uncontested control of the air, could not compensate for the ground troops' numerous shortcomings.

Maneuverability throughout the network, the basis of any partitioning operation, quickly became hampered because of the outdated nature of the organization inherited by the Moroccans. Mauritania, hard pressed and unable to bear the drain of continued hostilities, abandoned the conflict in 1979, ceding its portion of the territory to Morocco. This same year, the elusive and ubiquitous Polisario crossed into southern Morocco, pursued in vain, reached the sea, insulted the post at Tan Tan and went so far as to carry out inspections of foreign fishing boats off the coast, using inflatable boats. In spite of the air support, in spite of the extensive combing and encircling operations

that brought only rare catches, in spite of the deployment of rapid intervention forces, which were themselves heavy and inflexible in comparison with the adaptability and skill of their motorized adversaries and in spite of a pull-back of the network which led to the abandoning of certain posts, the Moroccans were unable, in 1979 and 1980, to take away the control of the area and the momentum of the operations from their adversary. The formal and antiquated system taken from outdated academic lessons which they had followed, showed its total impotence. The large southern Moroccan garrison of Zag, with a strength of some 5,000 men, was totally cut off and supplied only by airlift when General Dlimi took over command of the southern zone in mid-summer 1980.

The conduct of the operations took on a different aspect from that moment on.

Instead of routine operations, the Moroccans began to look for an original and specific solution to their problems. In October 1980 in order to prevent the adversary from attacking cities with impunity, the latter were surrounded with protective belts consisting of guarded obstacles which afforded protection against rocket attacks. Strongholds were thus set up at Smara, Tarfaya, El Ayoun, Tan Tan, Boujour and Dakhla. What is more, the Ouarkiz massif, south of Morocco proper, had its runways guarded and cut off from traffic. The Polisario continued its activities, although with less ease, and in November 1980 pushed as far as the Draa wadi, right in the middle of Moroccan territory. At the same time, however, General Dlimi publicly announced his intention to «*seal the borders against any infiltration*». The new line of action was defined as follows a month later to the press: «*(What we're doing is) moving forward in force while establishing heavily entrenched support points and building sand barrages, laying mines and setting up barbed wire obstacles equipped with radar as we progress*». Thus began the erection of what would become known as «*the wall*», the construction of a surveillance and obstacle line carried out despite the presence of an enemy that literally infested the terrain.

Having grasped the danger that an initiative such as this represented, the elimination of its principal advantage — mobility — the Polisario tried to prevent it. The Front launched violent assaults against the work sites, particularly that at Ras El Khanfra, which was the origin of the line. But they were unable to prevent the Moroccans



from carrying out their work, and a Polisario spokesman admitted at the end of 1980 that «Morocco is erecting a barrier to isolate the «useful triangle» between El Ayoun, Smara and Bou Craa, along a distance of approximately 300 km.» Some 12,000 Moroccan soldiers were mobilized for the operation. The initial form of the barrier was trenches 2 to 3 meters wide and 3 meters deep, with electric barbed-wire fences on the side of the enemy, thus making travel by vehicle impossible.

In January of 1981, the construction of the barrier having moved along, work was begun to the northeast of Smara and to the east of Bou Craa, in view of linking the two sites. In spite of the use of substantial equipment, including light tanks, multiple rocket launchers and wire-guided missiles, the Polisario, with a strength of battalions, failed to impede construction of the wall, with Moroccan aviation playing a determining role this time. The forces of King Hassan II pushed back all assaults, both frontal attacks and attempts to strike at rear flanks. Changing tactics and giving up their mobility, the Polisario troops tried at the end of January to build up a defensive front using support points designed to halt the progression of the Moroccan work. They were dislodged, as they were in February after a similar attempt. By this time 10 kilometers of the barrage were being built daily. Despite the fact that repeated Polisario attacks occasionally succeeded in impeding the work, the wall reached Smara in March, measuring by then some 200 km. The battle then moved to the west: there were clashes northeast of El Ayoun where the Polisario tried to push back Moroccan forces. By the end of March, the construction had reached the south of Bou Craa. The line had been consolidated and had taken on the form of a double wall of sand and stones 3 meters in height, several meters apart, built by bulldozers with foxholes dug in here and there at the top and covered with barbed wire on the enemy's side and further protected with mine fields.

Every 6 kilometers was a closed support point consisting of blockhouses built of dry stone, held by two infantry companies reinforced by artillery and armoured units and whose task was to patrol the sector stretching for 3 km on either side of the installation. Mobile groups to the rear were ready to intervene as reserve units. All in all, the wall mobilized 30,000 men. On March 27, 1981 the large and isolated Moroccan garrison at Guelta Zemmour near the Mauritanian border was the target of an outright attack by 3,000 men with light armoured vehicles, an attack that was

repelled with some difficulty. At the same time, the partitioning structure situated beyond the future barrier was gradually abandoned and the troops pulled back. In April, the work continued to move forward in spite of the Polisario's attacks. On May 8th, Zag was permanently taken over and incorporated in the line. By June, the line was 450 km long, reaching Bou Craa to the northeast of Ouarkiz massif and was equipped with detection radars which were able, like the LCT Stentor (France), to pick up a person on foot at 30 km and a truck at 60 km.

Within the useful triangle, movement became normal once again. In June, Msied and Zag, strong points along the line, were attacked unsuccessfully. In August, the Polisario descended upon Lemsiyed, at the pivot of the barrier along the plain and the Ouarkiz massif, but was forced to turn back under pressure from Moroccan reinforcements which arrived from Tan Tan. This weak point that had been revealed was immediately strengthened. At Khribichet, the Polisario attempted to outflank the Moroccans with three battalions (failak), but came up short. In October, 1981 Guelta Zemmour was the object of a large scale attack, with the adversary deploying tracked armoured vehicles and SAM-6 and SAM-8 anti-aircraft missiles. A back-up column with very effective support from the Air Force retook the stronghold.

Meanwhile, the barrier had reached El Ayoun. In November, the Moroccans evacuated the last positions in the interior: Guelta Zemmour and Bir Enzaran, leaving only the coastal cities of Boujdour and Dakhla outside the line. The Polisario made several attempts to break through using Soviet T-54 and T-55 tanks and captured armour at Msied in November of 1981 at the centre of the line, as well as at Khribichet in January 1982. These attempts were also without success due to the quick arrival of Moroccan aviation and substantial reserves. A long de facto truce ensued, broken only by sporadic harassment of Moroccan positions by the Polisario. In April 1982, the wall reached Boujdour and the Atlantic. But the Moroccan Army did not take to the offensive after the work had been terminated, contrary to what had been announced earlier, and there was for all intents and purposes a division between the area marked off by the wall, or the useful triangle, totally under Moroccan control, and the rest of the Western Sahara which had practically been abandoned to the Polisario. In July, the latter attacked the point at Smara at a time when a second line was under construction, using Soviet T-55 tanks and BMP armoured personnel carriers. They

also attacked Afrair, between Bou Craa and Boujdour. These attacks were stopped cold, although at the latter location there was a half-hearted breakthrough of no subsequent consequence.

What is more, these attacks did not prevent the phosphate mines at Bou Craa from reopening at the same time, a fact significant in itself. There was thus a progressive stabilization of the situation and a war of attrition set in, the cause of which was undoubtedly the erection of the wall. This process proved itself to be quite effective within two years since it transformed the nature of the operations for both sides. Since the facts themselves have amply demonstrated its importance, it is the phenomenon of the line of surveillance and obstacles itself which should be subject to scrutiny in terms of its ins and outs.

### **From limes to the «barrier that kills»**

The line of surveillance and obstacles is itself an extremely old concept which most likely goes back to the origins of war itself in the more or less unrefined form of the zariba which came down through the centuries to show itself again in our time in regions of the world where the basic level of technology has remained elementary. Its goal, for that matter, remains identical, even though the means have changed: the first and foremost objective is the construction of a homogenous and continuous assembly of obstacles and protected observation posts which make it easier to detect the approach of an adversary, slow the latter down by hindering his movement and thus allow friendly forces the time required to take on the enemy under optimum conditions in order to win the battle. Throughout antiquity, this solution was often used, mostly by the attacker during sieges and blockading of cities and strongholds using closed contravallations or natural uncrossable obstacles such as the sea or steep mountainsides. To this was added, to the rear, a parallel line designed to protect the blockading force against attempts from without to break through the lines: this was the circonvallation. Caesar's battles at Alesia remain the prime example of both formulas.

Here ditches, palisades, abatis, walls, embankments and diverse caltrops constituted the basis of these field organizations. Towers or miradors, actually transformed trees, served as observation posts for alert and first defence often using thrown or launched weapons. More or less fortified camps protected the major troop concentrations which were held in reserve for the assault, while a network of roadways ensured lateral circulation. Caesar was one of

the first to use this system as a frontal barrier to stop movement during the first phase of this campaign against the Helvetians in 58 B.C.

The system was adopted on an immense scale by the Roman emperors who, as of the 1st century A.D., erected limes, a complex system of surveillance and obstacles adapted to the terrain and designed to prevent or at least intercept and break up incursions by barbarians. These limes were used along the German, Dacian, Caledonian and African borders. Several centuries earlier, the Chinese emperors had had the Great Wall built according to a similar design. This same solution was also extended to Africa, where a wall cut off the Cape Verde peninsula from what is now Senegal, in order to ensure the tranquility of the fishing community that then lived there.

The process continued to be used here and there during the centuries which followed the fall of the Roman Empire in the 5th century, but only sporadically, except during sieges, when contravallations and circonvallations were used. These forms now integrated technical modifications, especially due to the advent of the cannon. Indeed, the progress made in firearms which came with the American Civil War (1861-1865), gave birth to the use of fortified fronts, with this formation reaching its height along the northeast front during the trench warfare of the First World War, from autumn 1914 to spring of 1914.

Fortified lines consisting of permanent constructions were the almost natural progression of the past: the Maginot line, the Siegfried line, the Mannerheim line. But all of these systems were manned by troops which were constantly in contact with the enemy, which was quite a different matter from the surveillance and obstacle lines even though by their very nature they served the same purposes. The difference was that the surveillance and obstacle lines of early antiquity and their evolution throughout later centuries allowed, and even enhanced the capacity for maneuvers, whereas the systems used during static warfare tended to reduce maneuverability to a minimum.

Less than a quarter of a century ago, the surveillance and obstacle line made a new appearance. The contemporary stage of this process which had been handed down through the centuries was paradoxically the result of technical progress. In 1959, the French command in Algeria set up a surveillance and obstacle line to attempt to put an end to incursions by the insurgents coming from Morocco and Tunisia, but this time using modern equipment: electric barbed-wire fences, mine fields, detection

radar, garrisons in fortified blockhouses, ground-based field artillery and aircraft defence pieces linked to the electronic surveillance system, mechanized patrol roads, helicopter-landed reserves, armoured and mechanized vehicles situated to the rear. The installation was known as the «barrage». This construction had the effect of a maneuver to the rear of the insurgents. Weapons supply lines were cut down to a trickle; units trying to rejoin the main troop concentrations were decimated. This «barrier that kills» was incontestably one of the means that gave French troops control of the terrain and led to the collapse of the internal organization of the Algerian combatants.

By the end of the operations a second line had been built some twenty kilometers from the first and connected to the latter by link roads which formed a series of lateral compartments. The barrier had thus become an area where French troops could, under the best possible combat conditions, maneuver to surround detachments that had attempted to breach the line and crush them using their far superior heavy equipment.

In 1961 the surveillance and obstacle line, having shown its efficiency against armed incursions, was put to use against peaceful flights: this was the Berlin Wall, which extended along the entire border between the two Germanies. In 1966, US Defense Secretary Robert MacNamara, considered using such an installation, which would carry his name, along the border between the two Vietnams in order to attempt to stop infiltration into South Vietnam of troop reinforcements and supplies for the Viet Cong. A first section was begun along the coast, but the adversaries of the Americans and their allies immediately recognized the danger and reacted vigorously in 1967 by attacking the garrisons at Gio Linh and Cam Lo which acted as support bases for the work in the interior of the country. The following year, they laid siege to Khe Sanh, which, near the Laotian border, constituted the eventual western key point of the MacNamara line. They did not persist in their attacks, but with the Marines having left the stronghold, the line was no longer a viable project, and it seems that it had never gathered much support in the Pentagon at any rate.

The Israelis, both to ensure security against PLO attacks and surprise attacks from either the Syrians or the Egyptians, undertook the construction of surveillance and obstacle lines along the limits they had reached during the 1967 Six Days War. This line was heavily

reinforced and stretched along the Golan Heights facing Syria and along the Suez Canal, facing Egypt. Incursions by the PLO, which had imprudently and loudly declared that it would turn Israel into «another Vietnam», were reduced to the point to which they became for all intents and purposes inoperable.

During the 1973 October war, the Golan installation delayed and hindered the Syrian advance long enough to allow the arrival of Tsahal to the rescue; the line along the Suez, the Bar Lev line, even though its forward section had been directly broken through, enabled the troops in the sector the capability to nevertheless hold firm and counter-attack for the main troop concentrations to successfully come to their aid, having pushed back the Syrians.

### Capacities and limits

There are easily enough results on the performance of surveillance and obstacle lines to allow for a general comprehensive examination of this process, so rich in history, that has reappeared as a contemporary phenomenon over the past twenty years, and to take a look at its capacities and limits.

It should be noted first of all that none of those who have erected systems of this sort have ever pretended that they were uncrossable barriers in themselves, no more so than impregnable fortified fronts. The surveillance and obstacle line has always been designed as a means of alert and delay, making it easier to intercept an incursion or to crush a large force trying to breach the line. It is a battlefield that is designed to give its user maximum results from its equipment and men while making any enemy maneuvers as precarious as possible. It can only be effective if it employs, whenever feasible in terms of the period's technical capabilities, means that are adapted to both the nature of the terrain and the enemy.

The Moroccan wall, for example, is meant to protect a useful triangle against incursions by motorized columns in desert terrain and is not designed in the same manner as the French barriers were during the Algerian war, which was protecting against infiltration by light infantry in rough and occasionally well-covered terrain. The Roman limes, which were all built of superstructures during the age of cutting and thrusting weapons, differ considerably from modern lines which take into account the capacities and mobility of modern firearms.

The arrangement in depth of different fortified rows gives the system an

adaptability and efficiency that a single line cannot afford. The best example of this was the French barriers in Algeria.

Finally, maneuverable forces, play the key role in this process ; the rest of the system is set up above all to allow them optimum offensive maneuverability. Their location, composition, nature, the conditions of their deployment and their engagement are all determining factors. It is their maneuverability within the inside of the lines, between the circonvallation and contrevallation, which finally determines the successful outcome of the operations, as with Julius Caesar at Alesia in 53 B.C. after three days of fighting against the besieged army and its rescue forces, or with Tsahal during the 1973 October War, where success was a result of the rotating offensive body of forces which turned from the Golan line to the Suez line.

Several means have been employed throughout the ages to combat the surveillance and obstacle line. The simplest, at least in theory, is to breach it and to prevail over the enemy reserves. The latter part of the operation is indispensable. It is the only way to gain the advantage and upset the entire system. War, after all, is not a rugby match, where all one has to do is break through a certain line to win. An endeavour such as this, however, for the very same reasons that were examined earlier, could hardly be more arduous to carry out. Like an attack against a fortified position, it requires considerable means and perfect organization to compensate the initial disadvantage inherent in the situation. The operation can only be one of force, with surprise and speed offering an additional advantage. The incursion has to be limited to diverse stratagems, which may possibly be a prelude to an attack in force. A landing of paratroops behind the obstacle is possible, but this supposes that the adversary controls the air. Finally, there is the surprise attack, a technique which involves a sudden strike against an installation known to be weak and which can only be mentioned in passing since it is unforeseeable and thus cannot be known.

In many cases the adversary does not wait until the line has been built to attack. It opposes its construction through various maneuvers. As was noted in an article entitled « Geography and Military History - The Afghan Crisis » which appeared in issue no. 12 of the French magazine « Stratégique »: « Since earliest history, there has existed a specific counter-maneuver for opposing the erection of a surveillance and obstacle line. It consists, as in naval battles of the past, of « crossing

the enemy's T », which is to say that one takes up position at right angles to the installation being built in order to prevent its progress ».

Thus in 414-B.C. the Spartan general Gylippe successfully opposed the construction of the investment lines which the Athenians had attempted to build to block and lay siege to Syracuse from the inland side, by setting up the Epipoles wall. At Alesia, Vercingetorix likewise attempted but without success, to check construction of Caesar's contrevallation by using his cavalry.

The outcome of the « T » battle which was launched with determination by the American's adversaries at Gio Linh, Cam Lo and Khe Sanh, was decided by the abandoning of the project without it being possible to measure whether the enemy action or lack of commitment on the part of the Americans was most responsible for the result. The forces of the Polisario Front attempted in vain in 1980 and 1981 to stop the Moroccan wall from being built, both by attacking and by attempting to set up a line of support points perpendicular to the work.

They have quite obviously failed to win the battle of the « T ».

The failures recorded by the surveillance and obstacle line also arise from its users' shortcomings. Having found it solid and having noted its efficiency as a deterrent, the wall is thought sufficient in itself and is not equipped adequately. The intervention forces, even though they constitute the key to the system, are reduced to a minimum and the line soon becomes no more than an insignificant and inefficient sort of fence. In the 3rd century, the Roman emperors divided their forces into two elements, the « limitanei » charged with manning the limes, and the « palatini », who made up intervention forces. But the latter, who were too busy installing and deposing the emperors of the period — quite accurately called « military anarchy » — did not come through when it was necessary to come to the rescue of limes under attack. Thus began the barbarian invasions and the two-century process of the fall of the Western Roman Empire. In Asia, there were similar circumstances behind the breaching of the Great Wall of China.

These examples have often been cited, but without noting the serious and obvious shortcomings which were the underlying causes of defeat, as reasons for scepticism regarding the validity of the strategy of the surveillance and obstacle line, which is considered a defensive ploy and thus dangerous in its very essence. Such an



analysis is somewhat hasty and ignores the fact that certain turning points in history were marked by battles that were purely defensive : Poitiers in 732 and Gettysburg in 1863, to name just two. It also ignores outright the offensive actions of the maneuvering or intervention forces, which after all are the only *raison d'être* for the material presence of the surveillance and obstacle line ; the true nature of the latter is not to be strictly defensive, but eminently and actively a means of conservation and stability. There is a substantial difference.

As far as the Moroccan case is concerned, the successful completion of a wall had an undeniable effect stabilizing the situation : the Moroccans regained uncontested control of the area within the useful triangle and their adversaries of the area without. The question to be asked now is how this balance might be upset. From the Polisario's point of view, there is only one problem, but is an extremely difficult one. Their objective is either to breach the line or to defeat the enemy reserves, at least locally, or to block any intervention by the reserves so that they can launch a raid without risking being cut off when they fall back, or to bring down a section of the system and its garrisons. This supposes both strength and speed, with the deployment of artillery, tanks and various other equipment. It also requires clear numerical superiority, at least temporarily.

The Polisario, however, has only about 20,000 available combat troops, and the distance which would have to be covered in the desert are considerable in terms of bringing heavy material and supplies to the point of operations. What is more, hostile radar cover reduces the chances of bringing off a surprise attack of any scope. Penetration by stratagem hardly seems logical at first glance except for an attack by a small raiding party which would serve only to harass the enemy without great effect. The task becomes even more difficult if the line is doubled, as is the Smara salient, if the main points inside the line are fortified and if the militia manning them are taken from dependable units (like the famous Minutemen during the American Revolutionary War 200 years ago), armed with light weapons and thus able to relieve and support the maneuvering forces. This last hypothesis seems all the more unlikely since there does not appear to be any hint of insurrectional or mutinous activity among the troops within the useful triangle in favour of the Polisario, even in its most elementary state (attacks, sabotage, political tracts, demonstrations, etc.). Finally, the use of fast

mechanized units to scout in front of the line and the installation of Moroccan artillery, which includes 155 mm M-109 and F3 self-propelled guns with RATAAC artillery radar systems mounted on tracked AMX-13 vehicles, have been coupled with effective concentration, detection and counter-battery procedures which have even made simple harassment maneuvers extremely risky for the Polisario.

The Moroccan situation is a perfect illustration of Sun Tse's dictum, « Invincibility lies in defence » ; to ensure control of the « other side of the wall », they will have to, unless they count on a problematical wearing down of the enemy's morale and equipment, set about decimating the Polisario forces.

This task, at which Moroccan troops already failed at the outset of the hostilities, is easier said than done as well. The Polisario's forces are much more agile than those of its adversary. Furthermore, they pay no attention to borders in the desert. Were the Moroccans to try to engage them to force a battle, they could only do so with their regular army at the risk of provoking a general outcry, unless of course they were to benefit from a certain amount of complicity. They would be obliged to « present a battle » by either forcing their adversary to accept it in one way or another or by using a ruse to give the enemy the impression of having a favorable chance. The line is of course always there to be used for a maneuver such as this. What remains, obviously, is to find a way to lure the main troop concentrations of the Polisario to a given point to be able to wipe them out having trapped them red-handed in the midst of an attempted breaching attempt.

As for trying to seek the issue and provoking the adversary by advancing beyond the wall, there would seem to be a single global maneuver that has been used by all powerful but cumbersome armies from antiquity to the present : the squared march. This was the strategy practised by Xenophon's ten thousand hoplites in 400 B.C. during their retreating march from Babylon, near present day Baghdad (Iraq), to the Black Sea, near the site where Trabzon (Turkey) stands today. It constituted a regulation formation in the Roman army, the *agmen quadratum*, and was brought back by the Wehrmacht forty years ago during the 1942 advance across the plains and steppes of southern Russia towards Stalingrad under the name *Motpulk*.

## Reflections on the line

This examination, largely speculative, of



the diverse possibilities available to the opposing forces in the Western Sahara, cannot help but give rise to a certain number of thoughts in passing concerning the practice of the art of warfare.

Thus the concept of a set-piece battle has reappeared, a concept that was too quickly dismissed as outdated since Napoleon (ignoring the fact, not incidentally, that his two most celebrated battles, Austerlitz and Rivoli, were set-piece battles). Yet the history of the recent conflicts in Indochina should have taught the armies of the industrialized West both French and American, that their major weakness in a milieu exceptionally well suited to their adversary's light infantry was their incapacity to present the battle under conditions favorable to them, whether at Hoa Binh in 1951, where it was a failure, at Dien Bien Phu in 1954, where it was a disaster, or along the 17th parallel in 1967 and 1968, where the strategy was abandoned. The construction of an obstacle and surveillance line is in itself the presentation of a set-piece battle since, as Polisario found to their cost in 1980 or 1981, the adversary is forced to a stark choice between passivity and barring the T. And if one looks a little more closely at the campaign surrounding the construction of the wall, it becomes clear that the theoretical notions and categories of traditional military language have been misused to a certain extent. Indeed, was the construction of the wall, a project which resulted in forcing the Polisario to fight and in its being run out of the useful triangle after its defeat, an area where it had roamed with impunity beforehand — was this operation an offensive or defensive campaign? The answer, according to generally admitted criteria, would seem to point to the former if one considers the results obtained, but to the second if one takes into account the means used and the goal sought. How is one to decide? General Dlimi, when explaining his intentions to the press as quoted earlier, emphasized the ambiguous nature, at least in formal terms, of his undertaking: « We intend to move forward in force, setting up support points and constructing sand barriers... » It might seem then, that the very concepts of offensive and defensive actions need re-examining. At any rate, the campaign in the Western Sahara should lead to a wariness of abstract categories, however useful they may be in discussion and reasoning, since they are often too rigid to cover the rich and varied nature of reality.

In his « Vers l'Armée de Métier » (Towards a Professional Army) Charles de Gaulle pointed out that there was nowhere « in Xenophon's *Anabases* or Caesar's commentaries the least allusion to principles, but only the presentation of circumstances and decisions ».

It is true that one searches in vain through the work of these great leaders the terms offensive and defensive or their equivalent. Their entire vocabulary is essentially concrete. The reason is that any act of war, like any struggle, for that matter, consists of simultaneously or successively compelling and preventing the adversary in his actions. He is compelled both by an attack or by the setting up of barriers, which is what General Dlimi did in building his wall. His adversaries tried to prevent him from doing so by at first attacking and then by confronting him with a fortified front. Herein lies the methodological explanation of the astonishing flexibility of the Roman Army with its glaiive, pilum and shield, organized within the heart of the legion to compel as well as to prevent, passing from one stance to another without apparent difficulty and fulfilling both offensive and defensive roles with virtuosity without making a distinction between the two. Performance such as this is hardly an invention of modern mechanized armies.

## Technology and history

The different instances where surveillance and obstacle lines have been put to use over the past quarter century have shown just how much modern technology can breathe new life into methods whose use goes back to even the most ancient periods of antiquity. By replacing the Roman legionnaire's palisades, ditches, caltrops and pickaxes with radar, electrified fences, mines and bulldozers, a system which has once again shown its efficiency has been revived.

Nor is this an isolated case ; there are numerous examples of concepts which seemed relegated to oblivion, only to be given a new existence thanks to some technical advance. Elsewhere in « Towards a Professional Army », Charles de Gaulle had already noted in 1934 that « cuirasse has reappeared, carried by a vehicle ». About the same period, in 1936, Camille Rougeron, summing up his conclusions in « L'aviation de bombardement » (Bomber aviation), wrote : « The history of equipment is as full of useful lessons as the history of operations. If the maneuvers of the battle of Cannes still merits study today, why shouldn't there be something to learn from Alexander's hoplites or Darius' elephants ? »

This is one of the reasons that it is not unfruitful to turn towards the past, taking a comparative approach to the art of war, in order to find not simply formulas and schemas, but subjects for reflection. Better to exercise one's critical faculties in a study of history to uncover these lessons than to give in to the weight of habits which have never led to anything but preparing for the last war fought instead of the next war one may have to fight.

## BRIEFS

DECISION TO HALT SHELLING--Baghdad, 15 Feb, INA--"By shelling selected targets in the Iranian depth, Iraq is not seeking to harm Iranian citizens or damaging their property but to defend its security and the safety of its towns and installations", the Baghdad daily ATH-THAWRAH said here today. Commenting on Iraq's decision to halt shelling of Iranian towns for a week, the newspaper, the mouthpiece of the Arab Ba'th Socialist Party, said that this decision was an embodiment of Iraq's truthful wish for peace and good neighbourhood and its will to reach a just and honourable solution for the conflict. Another daily AL-JUMHURIYAH said that Iraq's step is a new chance given to the Iranian rulers to find a way out of the impasse they locked themselves in. "The Tehran rulers", the paper concluded "will be the sole responsible for the consequences of their continued shelling of Iraqi cities."

[Text] [JN151353 Baghdad INA in English 1320 GMT 15 Feb 84]

CSO: 4400/161

## ISRAEL

### INCENTIVE GRANTS, LOANS FOR EXPORTERS DESCRIBED

Tel Aviv MA'ARIV in Hebrew 26 Jan 84 p 20

[Text] According to a wide-ranging program of the Export Institute for encouraging activity to promote exports, industrial plants which increase their exports over the next 3 years by significant amounts will qualify for incentive grants and loans under preferred conditions. This is in order to assist these plants to increase their penetration of foreign markets and to allow them to meet the defined financing conditions that will be required for an accelerated increase of exports.

A detailed recommendation in this spirit was submitted by the chairman of the Export Institute, Elisha Shahmon, and the Institute's director general, Mr Rami Gutt, to the minister of the treasury, Mr Yig'al Cohen-Orgad at the last session of the Institute's council. At this session there were lengthy discussions on the Institute's activities for advancing Israeli exports, and ways were suggested for significantly increasing the scope of Israeli industrial exports. The recommendations were as follows:

#### Special Encouragement for the Exporter To Increase His Exports

##### Track 1

A special grant for the exporter who increases his exports over those of 1983 according to the following schedule:

For the exporter who increases his exports by up to 15 percent--a grant of 8 percent of the added value of the increased exports.

For the exporter who increases his exports by between 15-30 percent--a grant of 10 percent of the added value of the increased exports.

For the exporter who increases his exports by more than 30 percent--a grant of 12 percent of the added value of the increased exports.

Track 2

A special incentive program for plants which double their exports over the next 3 years:

A. The program is intended:

1. To assist the plants above with the special penetration expenses that accompany accelerated growth of exports.
2. To focus assistance for the above plants which have the potential for export growth.
3. To assist the above plants in obtaining medium-range financing needed for accelerated increase of exports.

B. The plants which participate in the program must at least double their exports over the next 3 years as compared with their exports for the year 1983 (figured at fixed prices).

C. The exporters who participate in the programs will be those whose exports for 1983 amounted to at least \$400,000. Other exporters will be able to participate in the program on condition that their exports for 1983 reached \$100,000 and that they obligate themselves to increase their exports to \$500,000 by the year 1986.

D. Plants that participate in the program will receive financing at the rate of \$0.35 to the dollar of the added value of the increased exports. The interest will be at the prevailing international market rate. The interest will be paid only after the period of 3 years and after a comprehensive accounting procedure to determine whether the plant has met its obligations.

E. The loan will become a non-indexed loan at various rates if the following rates of export increase occur:

<u>Year</u>	<u>Export Percentage</u>	<u>Percentage of the Loan Not Indexed</u>
1984	25 percent	1/3
1985	55 percent	2/3
1986	90 percent	3/3

F. In addition to paragraph E, the fund will become a grant if the exports are doubled in the last year of the program.

G. The calculation will be made at fixed prices and the price increase will be deducted according to the main sectors price index of the Central Statistics Bureau.

H. Administrative arrangements will be made to assure effective supervision over the listing of exports of the plants participating in the program.

- I. It is expected that the exporters participating in the program will be those whose exports over the next 3 years are estimated at \$750 million.
- J. The program will include products the added value of which is at least 40 percent.
- K. An exporter who participates in the program and does not succeed in meeting the projection of a 100 percent increase in 3 years will be able, in any case, to still receive the "increase grant."
- L. A suitable incentive program will be worked out for export corporations.
- M. An exporter will be able to choose either of the two tracks and will be able to drop from the second track to the first if he fails to double his exports. In this case, he will be obliged to return the loan at market conditions.

The Granting of Favorable Financing Conditions to the Individual Exporter as Part of the Campaign to Promote Exports

Financial aid for export promotion activities must be given on the basis of program preparation for the advancement of marketing abroad for 2 years (with the possibility of change because of changing circumstances).

A. For the small exporter just starting out (up to \$400,000 in exports) financing at the level of 10 percent of the certified export estimate; of this sum, 20 percent is a grant, 80 percent dollar for dollar, at 50 percent Eurodollar interest for 2 years. The minimum financing is \$25,000.

B. For the intermediate and large exporter--financing at the level of 10 percent of the certified export estimate; of this sum, 10 percent is a grant, 90 percent dollar for dollar at 50 percent Eurodollar interest for 2 years.

Support will be given to the various promotion activities below:

--Participation in sector exhibits and fairs abroad that are not organized by the Export Institute

--All kinds of advertising expenses abroad, including training and demonstration campaigns

--The establishment of sales offices, service and maintenance offices and sales warehouses abroad (the aid will be given for the first 2 years of the operation).

--Expenses for travel abroad to promote exports.

--Foreign market research



--Foreign language catalogs intended for use abroad

--Registration and renewal of foreign patents for products developed in Israel

--Obtaining the proper certifications for repairs and all other certifications by government authorities (agriculture, health, transportation, communication, construction, etc)

--Legal expenses abroad for customs problems or for the removal of non-customs roadblocks to exports

--Consumer tests (market tests) for checking the suitability of a product for market requirements

--Expenses for gathering bids abroad

9794

CSO: 4423/34

## ISRAEL

### BRIEFS

**ANTICIPATED DECLINE IN FOREIGN TRAVEL**--A drastic decline is expected this year in Israeli tourist travel abroad. Nevertheless a significant increase is expected in incoming tourism to Israel. The estimates of the decline in Israeli exits abroad range between a third and two thirds of the number who went abroad last year. The director general of the Koppel concern, S. Rosenberg, whose estimates in previous years have generally been on target, sees a decline of about half of the 700,000 tourists of last year. He estimates that this year incoming tourism will reach an increase of 100,000 tourists from the U.S. Were it not for the Olympic games in the U.S. this year, he estimates that another 100,000 might have come from that country. The overall number of tourists expected this year is about a 1.25 million. S. Rosenberg reported yesterday at a press conference in Tel Aviv that his company, the leader in the tourism sector, will make an effort to increase internal tourism, and that Israelis will be offered low price package tours at Israeli hotels. He reported the reorganization of the company with the resignation of the joint director general, L. Filbski, from the concern. The stock split now is 45 percent Rosenberg, 45 percent Landco corporation (the Rubinstein group) and the rest with others whose names were not given out for publication. The company will reduce its number of workers by about 50 to 480 by the added efficiency of the reorganization. He also stated that there is no intention to sell the "Koppel Drive Yourself" company, and there is no truth to the rumors that the company has financial difficulties. [Text] [Tel Aviv HATZOFE in Hebrew 26 Jan 84 p 2] 9794

**DAYLIGHT SAVINGS TIME TRIAL**--Minister of the Interior Dr Joseph Burg reported yesterday to the coalition leadership that, in accordance with the recommendations of the special committee which he appointed, he has decided to institute daylight savings time this year for several months on a trial basis. The chairman of the coalition, MK Avraham Shapira (Agudat Israel) asked the interior minister to reverse his suggestion and announced that Agudat Israel will not support daylight savings time since the matter would cause a desecration of the sabbath in public transportation and in entertainment. The interior minister told Shapira that despite the fact that he is not happy about daylight savings time, a Knesset majority, after all, is assured on this private bill which was submitted by MK Akiva Nof (Likud) and it would be better for daylight savings time not to be instituted by force of law but rather by executive decree. At a session of the coalition leadership, MK Shapira announced that Agudat Israel could not sit idly by in

the face of the presentation of the play "The Messiah," which, in his opinion, is an open incitement "against God and his messiah." Were it to be shown in any other country, they would claim that it is anti-Semitic, Shapira said. He announced that he will appeal to the ministers of education, justice and police in order to discuss with them how to reduce legally the number of plays of this type by stopping government subsidies to theaters which show them. [Text] [Tel Aviv DAVAR in Hebrew 24 Jan 84 p 1] 9794

WASTE DISPOSAL PLAN--Within a year the emission of waste into the sea in the Gush Dan area will cease with the completion of the Gush Dan waste disposal and treatment plant which is being set up at the "shoreq" site. Yitzhaq Kaspi, the deputy mayor of the city of Tel Aviv and the chairman of the Gush Dan municipalities sewage federation, said yesterday that by the completion of the plant about \$17 million will have been invested in it. "The completion of the plant," Kaspi said, "depends upon the continued inflow of resources." During a tour of the place, Kaspi said that the operation of the waste treatment equipment creates a by-product (a "biomass") that has to be removed and cast into the sea at a distance of 5 km by means of a thick pipe. "We decided not to try to save money," Kaspi said, "and to lay a compressed polyethylene pipe of unlimited lifetime. The cost of such a pipe is \$2.8 million." Within a short time the pipe will be laid at the site and, in 1985, when the emission of waste into the Mediterranean Sea stops, the Israeli coast will become a place to enjoy without fear. [Text] [Tel Aviv YEDI'OT AHARONOT in Hebrew 26 Jan 84 p 12] 9794

CSO: 4423/34

LAB STUDIES EFFECTS OF PESTICIDES ON FOOD CROPS

Amman AL-DUSTUR in Arabic 6 Jan 84 p 2

/Article: "Laboratory Built For Investigating Effects of Pesticides on Fruits and Vegetables, Monitoring Pesticide Usage and Its Effects on Food Crops and Public Health, Advising Farmers and Setting Limits on Usage Levels"

/Text/ Amman, AL-DUSTUR--A laboratory for monitoring the effects of pesticides on various fruits and vegetables, the first of its kind in Jordan, will be opened next Tuesday at al-Husayn agricultural station, in the al-Baq'ah region.

Agricultural engineer and laboratory Director Ahmad Shawqi said that this vital project was a joint effort between Jordan and Germany, in which the German development agency provided the necessary equipment and tools in accordance with an agreement between the two countries providing for German technical aid to Jordan.

He noted that it has been proven during studies and experiments carried out by a number of technicians who have previously visited Jordan that the traces of pesticides remaining on Jordanian fruits and vegetables after spraying are among the highest in the world, and worse still, among the most damaging to the health of human beings and animals.

He added that some kinds of sprayed agricultural crops which do not permit the farmer to leave them before harvesting for the limited time until the pesticides stop working, such as zucchini, cucumbers, and the like, are among the most damaging agricultural products to humans, because they carry a greater percentage of various pesticides, besides which most of them are consumed without cooking, which increases the possibility of toxic materials, or greater percentages of poison, reaching the body as the result of prolonged consumption.

He said that it was because of that that this laboratory was built, to monitor agricultural products and the quantities of pesticides remaining on them prior to their being marketed for human consumption.

He explained that in the initial period after operations begin the laboratory will carry out extensive studies on the effects of these pesticides in order to arrive at special Jordanian specifications showing the maximum allowable levels of pesticide remnants, which will be publicized and enforced among the farmers.

He said that it has become customary in recent years for the farmer to spray his crops using casual methods, and to choose his pesticides haphazardly. In most cases, pesticide packaging has not carried information in Arabic on methods of use, minimum quantities required, and duration of effectiveness on crops, which leads to variation from one farm to another in the amounts of pesticide remanants.

For its part, the ministry took a practical step on this matter by requiring importers of these substances to require exporters to affix special information on the pesticide in Arabic.

He said that products which are sprayed with pesticides in the open air contain less residue, but products grown in greenhouses contain more because of being kept away from natural effects such as the wind and the sun, in addition to the fact that they are marketed no more than a few days after spraying, meaning that the time required for the dissipation of pesticide effects will not have passed.

In answer to a question concerning the procurement of the necessary technical staff to operate this lab, he said that the Ministry of Agriculture sent a number of employees to Germany for training sessions after the German Government agreed to train them at its own expense. These sessions have been completed, and they are now in a position to operate this laboratory and carry out its work.

The German Government has also sent one of its experts to supervise the initial stage of operation, and it is even feasible that this could become a part of the regular operating agreement.

#### Goals of the Laboratory

Concerning the laboratory's goals, Engineer Shawqi said that on the one hand it will monitor excessive use of pesticides and the effects of these pesticides on vegetables, and their effects on human health on the other hand.

He noted that after coordinating with the Royal Scientific Academy and conducting special experiments it was discovered that the level of pesticide remnants in Jordan is much higher than the internationally accepted level.

He added that the results that the laboratory will achieve will help alert the farmer to ways to use pesticides, and in the issuance of special Jordanian regulations on their allowed levels.

He said that Jordan is an exporter of agricultural products, and that these products have been submitted to laboratory examinations in importing countries, which has led to a lack of confidence in them.

On the other hand, Jordan also imports many consumer products, and the existence of this laboratory is necessary in order to examine these products and verify their suitability for human consumption.



POULTRY INDUSTRY AGREEMENT SIGNED WITH SWEDISH FIRM

Amman AL-DUSTUR in Arabic 13 Jan 84 p 2

/Article: "Ministry of Agriculture Signs Agreement with Swedish Firm to Conduct Study on Poultry Industry in Jordan"

/Text/ Amman, AL-DUSTUR--An agreement was signed yesterday in the Ministry of Agriculture for conducting a study of the poultry industry in Jordan.

Mr Muhammad Bashir, minister of agriculture, signed the agreement for the Jordanian Government, and for the Swedish Agri-Consult company, which will conduct the study, the agreement was signed by its general manager.

Dr Salim al-Lawzi, deputy minister of agriculture, who attended the signing ceremonies, noted that this important study was made necessary by the disorderly development which has occurred in light of the growth of poultry farms for chickens and laying hens in Jordan in recent years; there are now more than a thousand farms for table chickens and about 200 farms for laying hens.

He noted that this development was accompanied by the emergence of numerous difficulties, including marketing difficulties because of the lack of equipped slaughterhouses and technical centers for sorting eggs, in addition to increases in the cost of feed, veterinary treatment, and vaccines, which led to an increase in marketing difficulties and was reflected in the earnings of the poultry breeders working in this changing industry which depends fundamentally on importation for its basic production commodities.

He said that adding to these difficulties are laws in the cities and villages which have led and will continue to lead to the closing of many farms and their relocation in places where they do not conflict with the laws.

He explained that for these reasons and others the government decided to conduct a comprehensive study of the poultry industry in all of its aspects and to find good solutions which will allow for the continuation and development of this industry in the best way to serve farmers, consumers, and poultry breeders.

The government called for bids from the world's consulting firms to carry out this study, and the Swiss /sic/ company which won the bidding submitted the best and most appropriate offer.

He said that the cost of the study, which will last 6 months beginning yesterday, will be 70,000 dollars.

The signing ceremony was also attended by the director of production and animal health.

9310

CSO: 4404/290

## BRIEFS

'AQABAH PORT STATISTICS--Amman, PETRA--The number of steamships which called at 'Aqabah port in the first 10 months of last year reached 2,034, compared to 2,126 steamships that called at 'Aqabah port in the same period in 1982. The statistical report from the institute concerning the movement of steam and cargo ships passing through the port during the aforementioned period said that the number of persons boarding passengers ships reached 219,250, compared to 223,228 persons boarding during the same period in 1982. The report noted that the number of departures during the aforementioned period reached 214,037 persons, compared to 60,862 persons in the same period of 1982. The quantity of export goods passing through the port came to 4,142,005 tons, compared to 3,276,156 tons. The goods imported came to 5,072,807 tons, compared to 6,665,161 tons in the same period of 1982. /Text/ /Amman AL-DUSTUR in Arabic 23 Jan 84 p 5/ 9310

CSO: 4404/290

FINANCE MINISTER INTERVIEWED ON STOCK MARKET CRISIS

Kuwait AL-QABAS in Arabic 2 Jan 84 p 19

[Interview with 'Ali al-Khalifah al-Sabah, minister of petroleum and finance: "The Minister of Petroleum and Finance Opens for AL-QABAS the 1984 al-Manakh Market File: 'We Are at the Beginning of the End and the Crisis Will Disappear in 6 Months'"; date and place not specified]

[Text] As the difficult year 1983 came to an end AL-QABAS, along with Minister of Petroleum and Finance Shaykh 'Ali al-Khalifah al-Sabah opened the 1984 file on the Kuwait stock market crisis whereby he dotted the i's and crossed the t's.

Beginning of the End

[Question] What will be the next step after the arbitration panel has concluded its task, and will the process of arranging settlements be carried out by the settlement agencies as it now is?

[Answer] The fate of those referred to the settlement agencies [investors] is in the hands of their creditors. Once we are finished determining what the liabilities and the assets of those investors are--which will be accomplished in a short time--the matter will be laid before the creditors' council. In other words each investor will be referred to a council the members of which will be made up of all of his creditors. It will then be up to the members of this council to make a decision regarding the status of their debtor who has been referred to them. They may either grant him a "protective settlement" or they may refuse to do so, in which case he is either turned over to the public prosecutor's office or a settlement is implemented. Here I should like to stress that the granting of a "protective settlement" to a debtor by his creditors is not necessarily sufficient to protect him. If it is determined that his conduct had violated the law in the period preceding his referral, then after the conclusion of the "protective settlement" the creditors have the right to have him audited for a period of 15 years from the date of the conclusion of the "protective settlement." The right to have him audited applies not only to the creditors but it is also accorded to the settlement agency, which also has the right to check the transactions of the investor during the period

preceding the protective settlement as well. In other words it means that the agency has a twofold right, one which applies to the period both before and after the conclusion of the "protective settlement." I am of the opinion that all of the indications are good and that we are at the beginning of the end.

[Question] What measures are you taking to increase the assets of the investors, and have they been arranged and invested in a manner that would be beneficial to the creditors as a whole?

[Answer] Our role is to make a realistic evaluation of the status of the investors, not to try to increase their assets or even to decrease them. But this does not conflict with the fact that we are conducting normal investment operations with regard to the shares and the real estate holdings of those investors, and with regard to their cash funds which we have on deposit. We cannot go beyond this limited role because we are in the position of being the legal guardian until the creditors' council decides what it wants to do with respect to the funds and the assets in our possession.

[Question] Where are the documents for which the parties involved in the proceedings are waiting and which can be used as a factor in settling claims?

[Answer] I do not want us to anticipate events.

[Question] What do you think is the outlook for the securities market in 1984?

[Answer] I cannot speak about the market, and I shall leave that subject to the Ministry of Commerce. Furthermore, there is a committee and an administrator in charge of the securities market and that committee lays down appropriate regulations for transactions.

[Question] What measures are you taking to determine what the actual assets of the investors are?

[Answer] The settlement agency has been auditing each of the investors' bank accounts for the past 3 years. We have also been checking on all the shares that he has dealt in. This is done through checking with the companies themselves since everyone dealing in the market over the past 3 years has had to have the shares in which he dealt recorded on those companies' books. The fact that we are checking the investor's dealings through the companies' records gives a strong impetus to the verification procedure. We also have various other steps that we can take to check on the investor's assets even after the "protective settlement" has been concluded between him and the creditors' council. I should like to stress once more that the act of reaching a "protective settlement" does not necessarily cause the proceedings to be brought to a halt. We have a long period during which we monitor and follow all of the investor's activities, and it extends from the period before he was referred to the agency and continues following his referral.



[Question] Have you made an official request to the European banks to hand over information about the secret accounts of some of the investors; accounts about which there has been much talk recently?

[Answer] We are monitoring all of the investors' accounts and we are employing various methods in the process. If there had been transfers abroad then such transfers must have been made on a specific date through a specific Kuwaiti bank. We are monitoring all of the investors' accounts in Kuwait, as well as those that the law empowers us to monitor and follow up on outside of Kuwait. But we must remember that there are sovereignty rights, and that we must not go beyond such limits as well as the limits of the relevant agreements between ourselves and other countries. There are prevailing laws in every country and accordingly we do not request anything of such countries, nor does the law permit us to do so. However, on the other hand, like the creditors, we too do have the right to monitor the debtor's accounts not only in the case of a "protection settlement" but also even in the event of an "amicable settlement." We shall make use of this right for a period of 15 years following the date of the conclusion of either the "protective settlement" or the "amicable settlement." Such is the case because the act of concealing assets is a "crime," a crime for which our right to prosecute will not be voided until after 15 years have elapsed.

#### The Economic Reputation Is Fine

[Question] To what extent has the economic reputation of Kuwait abroad suffered, and do you have any countermeasures in that respect, particularly in the way of giving the outside world a picture of the level to which the size of the debts has been lowered following passage of the [recent] law--debts that previously had mushroomed to around 27 billion dinars?

[Answer] As far as the crisis is concerned I am convinced that the economic reputation of Kuwait is fine whether under the aegis of the previous law or under that of the present one. In the past, in order to protect our economic reputation we had the maxim that "a contract is the law between the contracting parties." In my opinion what took place conflicts with the laws that were in force in Kuwait which did not permit such high interest as 400 percent or 500 percent and did not even permit interest as high as 50 percent. The principle of "the contract is the law between the contracting parties" is valid provided that its application does not infringe upon the statutes and laws in force. The statutes and laws that have been in force in the State of Kuwait from the time it was established until today prohibit such levels of interest. Having said that, how can we claim that sanctioning the illegal interest levels under that principle is in line with the protection of our economic reputation?

[Question] In that case does it mean that the law has restored the debt problem to its normal magnitude?

[Answer] I can only say that Law 100 of 1983 has reduced the magnitude of the problem to a great degree. Because of that we are now at the beginning of the end, a process which may require a period of 3 to 6 months to be attained.

[Question] What is your opinion regarding the decision to lower the initial ceiling that traders can get from the fund for the protection of small investors' rights from 2 million dinars to only half a million? And what is your opinion regarding talk that the decision to lower it is unconstitutional because the 2 million dinars limit was set by a decree and the decision to lower it was put forth by a ministerial decision, thereby inflicting an injustice on some people?

[Answer] First of all, as to the injustice I should like to inform those who consider that they have suffered as a result of this measure that they can return the sums which they have taken up to now from the fund whatever the amount involved may be--whether it be below half a million or below 2 million dinars--and withdraw from the fund and be included in the debtors trust. If someone finds that such a withdrawal is in his interest, in that case, the decision to remove the injustice will be solely in his hands.

In the second place, concerning the reasons for making this decision, we found ourselves in a fixed position, namely, that the fund's assets were set at 500 million dinars. I, as minister of finance, do not intend to spend more than that sum on behalf of the investors.

[Question] There are figures which confirm that you have exceeded that sum for some time now. How do you respond?

[Answer] In a practical sense we have not exceeded it. The issue should not be viewed according to how much was given out but rather according to the extent of the assets which the fund gained in return.

Therefore, on the basis of how much we spent and of how much of the investors' we gained we can see that we definitely did not exceed the 500 million dinars' capital of the fund. We gave out negotiable bonds which were worth a great deal, but their current value is less than their face value because they mature after a certain number of years. At the same time we took in what was due to the beneficiary from the debtors' trust. If we take all of these factors into account, we can see that we have not exceeded the stipulated 500 million.

[Question] What about the legality of the statute lowering the ceiling?

[Answer] The setting of the limit at 2 million dinars was by no means done through a law or a statute. Rather, the limit of 2 million dinars was set on the basis of a decision by the cabinet and the reduction of the 2 million to half a million also came about through a decision of the cabinet. In both cases there was no statute or ministerial decree.

[Question] What is the story regarding the valuation of the investors' dinar? You mentioned a while back that the announced value of the investors' dinar is an approximate value that is subject to change, and traders now are anticipating such a change. When will it take place?

[Answer] The law is clear. It involves settlement on the basis of the approximate value of the dinar because we can fix the final value only after all the properties and assets belonging to the investors have been liquidated. However, you will be surprised how close the approximate value I have declared is to the actual value after the assets have been liquidated.

12541

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# FINANCIAL CRISIS CONTINUES IN KUWAIT

Kuwait AL-WATAN in Arabic 23 Nov 83 p 13

[Article: "The Market Crisis in Its Second Year: Stock Prices Have Lost 85 Percent of Their Value; Daily Trading Volume Has Fallen to Only 2 Million Shares"]

[Text] In the first part of this study, we considered general topics having to do with the market crisis. We learned that the crisis has various economic and social dimensions. In this part of the study, we will deal with the effect of the crisis on the economic sectors. Let us begin with this crisis's effect on the stock market itself. The figures available to us indicate that the "Suqal-Manakh" has lost just about everything. Stock prices have fallen by as much as 85 percent. As for the daily trading volume which characterized al-Manakh in the days of its glory and reached into the billions, it fell in 1983 to an average figure of only 2 million shares. The volume of trading for some months reached very low levels. For example, the volume of trading during the months of January and March of 1983 was equal to 40 million shares. "See the daily financial reports of the Ministry of Commerce."

It can be seen from these statements that trading was limited after the crisis to the shares of some major companies, such as Al-Mazini, Gulf Investments, Shu'a' and, sometimes, some cement companies. It was conducted at very low prices. It has also been noted that the market's brokerage houses are empty. Moreover, most of them have let go many of their employees. Some have sold their facilities to other firms. As for the effect of this crisis on the stock exchange, it was minimal, since the exchange and its traders were relatively far removed from the traders of the "Suqal-Manakh" and their speculative deals. Moreover, the stock exchange traders, whom we can call the "conservatives," represent that class of market traders who generally leaven their decisions with caution born of experience. They had already been hit by the shock of the 1970's, which resembled this crisis to a certain extent, although the latter has been more severe than the former was. Despite all that, the al-Manakh crisis has distracted the stock exchange traders from the pleasure of trading in their parlors. The volume of shares traded on the stock exchange during the first half of this year fell by 42 percent, in comparison with the second half of 1982. The volume of trading during the first six months of

this year was equal to 43 million shares, while the trading volume was 74 million shares for the same period in 1982. Moreover, the general stock price indicator continued to fall. It declined by 11 percent, if its level at the end of the first half of this year is compared with its level for the same time last year.

#### Trading is Limited to the Government

One can point out that trading on the stock exchange has been limited to the government buying and other parties selling. In other words, if it were not for the government's support, the daily average, as is now clear, would be zero. This is the effect of the crisis on the market itself. One must now ask how much of an effect this has had on the local banks.

The answer to this question is limited here to these points: The banks could have been influenced and involved in the crisis to a large degree, meaning they would have been bankrupted. Thanks be to God, this was not the case. Another possibility was for the banks not to have been affected by the crisis in the last analysis. This appears doubtful. The first choice remains, in which case the answer is limited to saying that the banks have been relatively affected by the crisis, because many of those involved in the crisis borrowed money from and did business in one way or another with the banks. Some of them have not paid these banks the interest on their loans!

Unfortunately, evidence is not available in a country like Kuwait, which is numbered among the developing countries. Statistics and data cannot be had in Kuwait as they can in the advanced countries, where a journalist can find information to analyze and draw conclusions about. Even the monetary publication of the central bank does not provide suitably detailed information. In the liabilities schedule of the private sector, the clause on credit facilitations is given as a total figure. How nice it would be if the details behind this figure were given, so that one might know how much loaned money went into stocks or real estate and how much was paid back. Such details could also show us where and for what sectors these loans were going. With regard to this publication, it can be noted that even in its introduction it focuses on fixed variables in all of its figures, without offering any objective analysis of these variables.

Some information indicates that the demands made by the central bank on the local banks have approximately doubled. These demands totaled 296.1 million dinars in January of this year. In September, they amounted to 484.9 million dinars, according to the "Financial Report of the Central Bank for September 1983". The net balance was "-32", meaning that "the central bank was providing the commercial banks with net assistance in dinars." Therefore, a few indicators exist which show that the banks are suffering somewhat from the crisis and that the central bank is helping them by pumping funds to them.

We should not talk at too great length about the condition of the commercial banks, since we cannot analyze their situation in depth. We are waiting for a statement by the central bank in this regard. As the banks' bank, it must use its monetary publication to provide clearer information along with a comprehensive scientific analysis far removed from description and abstraction.



# EXTENT OF EMBEZZLEMENT IN AIRLINE REPORTED

London AL-SHARQ AL-AWSAT in Arabic 29 Nov 83 p 20

[Article: "Cases of Financial Embezzlement in the Foreign Offices of Kuwaiti Airlines"]

[Text] AL-SHARQ AL-AWSAT has learned that a number of the offices of the Kuwaiti Airlines company located abroad have suffered from cases of embezzlement. These incidents were disclosed by the Kuwaiti minister of finance, Shaykh 'Ali al-Khalifah, in detailed statements which he delivered to the Kuwaiti National Assembly in response to questions posed by some deputies in this regard. These cases of embezzlement occurred in the company's offices in Tehran, Bahrain, Amsterdam, Libyan Tripoli and Copenhagen.

The minister said that the embezzlement in the Dahran office had been committed by the office's accountant, Muhammad Bashir Abu Labadah, who is a Syrian national. This incident was uncovered on 29 December 1982. As soon as the administration of the company found out that the incident had occurred, it issued an order dismissing the accountant from his position and blocking the embezzled funds in preparation for legal action. Before taking any such action, it tried to regain the money by friendly means. When it found that such means were useless, it informed the Saudi authorities of the matter. It also retained an attorney to deal with the matter with the Saudi authorities. However, the aforementioned accountant was able to flee, although his passport had been seized by the company as a precautionary measure. The company turned his passport over to the investigating authorities.

The total amount embezzled was 2,619,996 Saudi riyals, in addition to \$888,000. The minister said that the employees of the company who came to look into the matter in Saudi Arabia discovered that about 50,000 Saudi riyals had been withdrawn from the company's funds by its former Dahran director. He was Mumtaz al-Sharfa, a Palestinian national who had been transferred to Frankfurt before the embezzlement was discovered. He was summoned and an investigation was conducted with him. In the end, he was granted the sum, in view of the lack of proof of embezzlement. Rather, it seemed to be a case of poor administration. He was warned not to repeat the same administrative error.

"After a period of time passed," the minister said, "the Saudi authorities in charge of investigating this matter informed us that strong suspicions existed that the same individual had been involved in the crime of embezzlement. He might have been the partner of the accused accountant." The authorities asked the company to turn him over to them. Turning this individual over to the Saudi authorities required that certain legal steps be taken and made it necessary for the Kuwaiti authorities to become involved in the case. The individual was summoned once again. However, he submitted his resignation. Rather than waiting for it to be accepted, he left Frankfurt for parts unknown. This caused the company to inform the public prosecutor's office in Kuwait and the investigating authorities in Saudi Arabia that he had fled. The company later heard that he was living in Cairo. The authorities were informed of this and given the address he was probably living at. The matter is still under consideration by the public prosecutor's office in Kuwait.

At the Bahraini office, company officials discovered a deficit in the bank deposits amounting to about 16,000 Bahraini dinars. The accountant was at once relieved of his position. A committee from the financial and legal departments was given the task of traveling to Bahrain to investigate the matter and take whatever measures were necessary. The commission took the accountant into custody and conducted an administrative inquiry with him during which he admitted his responsibility for what had happened. The commission was able to collect 7,000 dinars of the total missing sum from the accountant. The investigation is still going on. Of course, the accused is a Bahraini national. The insurance company was also contacted, so it could compensate the company for the loss of the remaining sum.

The accountant in the Amsteraam office embezzled 137,768 florins, a sum equal to 14,600 Kuwaiti dinars, from the corporation's funds. He fled before the embezzlement was discovered, although he is a citizen of Holland. The concerned authorities in Holland were informed of the matter, as was the insurance company, so that the sum could be obtained from it.

At the office in Libyan Tripoli, the accountant bought checks sent from the corporation to other companies which were doing business with it. These checks showed the value of the commissions received by the companies. He did this in collusion with the companies' representatives in order to obtain hard currency. He transferred the value of these checks to his wife's account in Italy. The corporation suffered no material harm as a result of this, since these sums had to be paid to the companies and the companies cannot demand them a second time. In view of the fact that this subject might conflict with the currency regulations in Libya, it was not raised there. The accountant was summoned to Kuwait, where an investigation was conducted with him. He was found guilty and his services were terminated. However, he did not return to Tripoli. When he was taken into custody, it turned out that 4,842 dinars were missing. He was charged and the sum was demanded from him. His termination-of-service bonus, which covered the missing amount the company was demanding, was also frozen.

The company's office in Copenhagen was robbed. The sum of 240,000 kroner was stolen from the office safe after working hours. The police were

informed of the matter. Suspicion centered on the office's regional sales director. The company terminated his services. The matter is still being considered by the investigating authorities in Copenhagen. The corporation also informed the insurance company.

The minister said that the existence of shortcomings in the financial monitoring mechanisms had caused these cases of embezzlement and fraudulent dealing. In order to make sure that these financial excesses are not repeated, a comprehensive monitoring system for the company is being studied.

12224

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DEPUTY FROM SHUF REGION INTERVIEWED

London AL-HAWADITH in Arabic No 1418, 6 Jan 84 pp 12-13

[Interview with Fu'ad al-Tahini, member of chamber of Deputies from the Shuf, by "Amin": "Those Who Have Been Expelled Are Awaiting An Initiative Which Will Remove the Effects of the Mountain War"; date and place not specified]

[Text] Once again, national discussion is focusing on the context of the social problem which has been highlighted by the wars of the last 9 years.

Now that the refugees have been removed from the town of Dayr al-Qamar, after a siege which lasted several weeks, attention can be focused on the refugees created by the war, as well as all the tragedies and disasters that go with them, in a renewed attempt to find a solution which will spare Lebanon the dangers of surrendering to demographic and sectarian partition. Such a surrender is rendered more likely by the chance that the refugees will remain where they fled and be forced, due to the circumstances brought forth by the war, to surrender to the reality of partition. Much evidence is appearing on the horizon which says that the possibility of partition will grow, deepen, and extend its roots through Lebanon's soil.

In the midst of the noise of the refugees' trucks, and the politicians' statements, a group of concise questions are being asked today in Lebanon.

They include a basic question: Has the initiative been lost by the citizens and leaders of Lebanon? Has it been lost by those who are working to preserve the unity of Lebanon? Has it settled forever into the hands of those who ignited the war in order to remove Lebanon as a single state from the map of the Middle East, replacing it with another Lebanon composed of a group of sectarian cantons caught up in internecine fighting?

Have the voices of the moderates, who rejected all talk of fragmentation, division and partition, no matter what the justifications might be, disappeared, to be replaced by the voices and wills of those who are committed to programs of war, destruction and partition in the world?

The lawyer and professor Fu'ad Tahini, a member of the Chamber of Deputies who represents the war-torn mountain region and the Shuf, an area full of potential

for struggle, is a son of the town of Dayr al-Qamar, which the refugees left after a long siege, in order to disperse into several regions of Lebanon.

One of the most important advantages possessed by Deputy Fu'ad Tahini is that he is Christian. He stands in the vanguard of the leaders of both the mountain and Lebanon as a whole who think moderation is the only course for Lebanon and see the country as a single body which cannot live if it is divided or dismembered.

Deputy Tahini represents in Lebanon one of the most important stages of national unity and coexistence among all the sects in all the regions. In addition to all that, he was one of the Christian politicians who for long years accompanied Mr Kamal Junblatt along his political path. He has been a proponent of the nationalist aspirations, principles and path in the Chamber of Deputies and the National Struggle Front, as well as by means of both electoral and national joint political activity.

In his interview with AL-HAWADITH, Deputy Fu'ad Tahini painted a picture which does not contain many signs of optimism regarding the future of Lebanon.

His interview focused on future relations among the people of the mountain, following the lifting of the siege of Dayr al-Qamar. He said this at the start of the interview: "After the tragedies which have descended on the region of the Shuf and 'Alayh, as well as the excesses which were committed, I think it will be extremely difficult to rebuild Druze-Christian relations. However, the matter is still not impossible. It is merely that realizing it supposes the fulfillment of numerous conditions. Here are the most important ones:

1. Both the Druze and the Christians must realize that neither side has an advantage over the other. They must realize that the Christian presence in the mountain, though it came later in history than the Druze presence, has been rendered legitimate and deep. The Christians, like the Druze, have a history in the Shuf which has been taking root since the era of the Ma'nids. This has happened through substantial numbers, important positions and those of good conscience. That which history has fashioned cannot be removed overnight.

2. A general political atmosphere must be created which tends toward pacification and reconciliation, because Druze-Christian reconciliation in the mountain is strongly tied to national reconciliation in general.

3. The third condition, which would return Druze-Christian relations to a normal state, is the return of the Christian refugees to their villages, because it is not enough to raise the siege of Dayr al-Qamar and spare about 2000 of its people. This alone will not make relations normal again. Let no one believe that lifting the siege from Dayr al-Qamar in particular has put an end to the problem of the mountain, because this measure is tantamount to a small link between large ones, which are tied to the problem of reconciliation in general.

"If the Christian refugees are not returned to their villages quickly, hatred will grow and deepen. The refugees will become fertile ground for extremism



and exploitation on behalf of various goals, including the regaining of land and dignity by force of arms. Mr Walid Junblatt should make no mistake in this regard. Today, not tomorrow, he should make it possible for the refugees from the Shuf and 'Alayh to return to their villages, because only in this way can he adequately demonstrate that he does not really want to create a Druze canton or state. He will also show that the principles of justice still exist in our country, and that he believes in them, applies them and will not allow the property of the Christians to be seized by those who are taking them over today."

[Question] If you want to propose an initiative for solving this problem, on what foundations could it be built?

[Answer] I have been one of those calling for the creation of a quick solution to the problems of the refugees and the siege of Dayr al-Qamar, because I have been convinced that one can attain things right after the occurrence of massacres and excesses which it is difficult to reach at a later stage. For I have been afraid that the issue of Dayr al-Qamar and the refugees would enter such a stage with time.

Today, after all that has happened, it seems to me that it is difficult to devise a comprehensive solution for the mountain in isolation from the problem of Lebanon in general. This is because the Druze sect, which has previously advanced certain demands for the obtainment of gains within the future political structure, will not leave the mountains. It will deepen its influence there and use it as a pressure card against the government in order to achieve its demands. I hope things will not go that far.

Therefore, if the Lebanese state takes the initiative quickly and draws up a final draft of the political formula, it will prevent the fulfillment of these prophecies and clarify the background of things as they are on the ground.

[Question] It is well known that you are linked to the Junblatt family by old and deeply rooted political and patriotic ties. Does this not help you in taking the initiative to open a dialogue with Mr Walid Junblatt, in order to remove the aftereffects of the war?

[Answer] I want to ask whether Mr Walid Junblatt is still following the course he was on before the Israelis entered Lebanon. At that time, he was seriously interested in deepening the Druze-Christian connection in the Shuf region. This interest was demonstrated by the successive visits he made to Christian monasteries and villages in the Shuf. These were recently crowned by a visit to Dayr al-Qamar in particular. However, things have changed since the Israelis came storming in and the Lebanese Forces have come up into the mountain. The latter development was not favorable, for Christian-Druze relations are understood only by those who have practiced and lived them. All this caused a shift on the ground which was not accompanied by any shift in the orientations of the leaders in the mountain. They did not move to confront it while preserving the Lebanese entity. Events took their course and the region experienced a true period of warfare which ended with the withdrawal of the Lebanese Forces and an unprecedented evacuation of the Christian villages. In

addition to all that, Mr Walid Junblatt has not tried to adapt his point of view to the new developments. He has depended on Christian fragmentation in the region. The only effect of all this muddling was to deepen Israel's influence. Israel shrewdly played with all the factions by opening up basic lines of contact with all of them. Sometimes it would give its support to one faction but not to another. Then it would withdraw this support to grant it to both at the same time. All this was in accord with its own interests.

Both the Druze and the Christian inhabitants of the Shuf have today begun to ask if the door of negotiation was still open when the battles in the Shuf occurred. They are asking whether their leaders decided too hastily when they gave the order to open fire.

Right now, the people of the Shuf are examining their consciences and ask both for information and the people responsible for all this killing and destruction. The Druze have lost their homes, men and industrial and commercial market. The Christians have lost their men and presence in the mountain, even if only for a time. Who was the victor?

[Question] How do you view the history of relations between the Christians and Druze in the mountain?

[Answer] Relations between the Christians and Druze were as good as could be wished for. They became complex in the era of the late Mrs Nazirah Junblatt, due to the relationship which existed then between Dar al-Mukhtarah and the Diocese of the Shuf. The diocese was headed by a far-sighted man, the late Metropolitan Augustine al-Bustani. He was both a religious and a political leader at the same time. The late Kamal Junblatt followed the same course, since he was very eager to preserve Druze-Christian solidarity. Indeed, he was very close to the Christians in general and the Maronites in particular, because he understood their situation and trusted their sincerity. They liked him because he represented principles which they held to be correct.

The ties between the Christians and the Druze lasted until after the death of the late Kamal Junblatt. For my part, I tried as hard as I could to see that Mr Walid Junblatt would stay close to the Christians, thereby preserving the unity of the mountain. After the Israeli invasion, matters were taken out of the hands of us all. Influence became the province of the rifle.

[Question] Mr Walid Junblatt attributes the situation occurring in the mountain today to numerous causes, including the coming of the Lebanese Forces into the mountain. He says that the general problem of the refugees, which includes all of Lebanon and all the sects, must be solved in order for both Christians and Muslims to regain what is theirs. What is your opinion of this view?

[Answer] There is no doubt that the ascent of the Lebanese Forces into the mountain made the atmosphere tense. But let me say this: were the doors of dialogue really shut, so that we had turn to arms? I do not believe so, though some people made the split worse and tried to play a little game in order to settle some scores. As for the matter of refugees, it is impossible to link the refugees in the Shuf with the issue of refugees in Lebanon.

[Question] Why?

[Answer] Because I do not see what the connection is between refugees from al-Nab'ah or al-'Ayshiyah and refugees from the Shuf, be they Druze or Christian. The Christians who fled the Shuf came to Beirut, while the Druze who fled from the 'Alayh region went largely to the region of the Shuf. Merely by returning the Druze from 'Alayh to their villages, it will become possible for the Christians who fled from the villages of the Shuf to return. Therefore, if someone tries to link the refugees of the mountain with the problem of refugees in all Lebanon, he is setting up obstacles intended to prevent us from arriving at a positive result.

[Question] Some people consider the experience of the mountain to be a confirmation of the point of view which says that Lebanon is headed for a sectarian canton system.

[Answer] I have taken numerous stands against the fragmentation of Lebanon, be it by the institution of political federalism or by means of the actual partitioning of the country. The late Kamal Junblatt took the same position. Has the Druze position changed today following the expulsion of the Christians in the region of the mountain? Can the Druze be self-reliant in the region in which they are located today? I doubt that. The Christians of Kisrawan and al-Matn are not capable of forming a separate political entity, due to numerous economic, political and social circumstances. In the same way, the Druze cannot isolate themselves from the Christians and set up a pseudo-state for themselves, because such a state could survive neither politically nor economically.

With regard to the subject of cantons, let me ask where the Christian canton will be located. What will we do with the Christians in the south? Where will the Shi'ite canton be located? Will it be in the Biqa', the south, or the southern sector? The same question can be asked about the Sunni canton. The Sunnis are found in Sayda', the province of al-Kharub, West Beirut, Tripoli and 'Akkar. If the great powers are serious about the canton idea, then I think we can expect more wars and conflicts, until the expulsion is complete and the sects have been redistributed among the country's regions. This is the essence of disaster.

I fear that the Lebanese have lost the ability to confront these plans, especially since most of them are succumbing to the assault of foreign influences. They have lost proper national feeling.

12224

CSO: 4404/271

# GREATER USE OF COAL BY PUBLIC UTILITY PROPOSED

London AL-HAWADITH in Arabic No 1418, 6 Jan 84 pp 34-35

/Article by 'Adnan Karimah: "State Funds Keep Electric Utility From Bankruptcy and Save Lebanon From Darkness; Theft and Line Tapping are Among the Most Prominent Causes of the Crisis; Ministry of Oil Takes its Grievances to the Cabinet"/

/Text/ Before the war, the Electric Utility was among the best governmental organizations with a positive cash flow. Yet today it has changed to an organization in the red, its debts increasing daily. If it had not been for the state's support of it, as a public utility, it would have gone bankrupt long ago, threatening Lebanese with total darkness.

The Electric Utility has been exposed to great harm, as have others in the public and private sector, caused by the last long 9 years of war. Direct losses were evaluated through the period preceeding the war of al-Jabal last summer at about 242 million pounds, distributed as follows:

1. Equipment (sections, meters, cutters, gauges)	19.5 million pounds.
2. Principal stations	10.5 million pounds.
3. Distribution stations	57.5 million pounds.
4. High voltage networks	15.5 million pounds.
5. Medium voltage suspended and subterranean networks	65 million pounds.
6. Low voltage suspended and subterranean networks	46 million pounds.
7. Civil buildings and works	2.5 million pounds.
8. Warehouses	8 million pounds.
9. Supplies, tools, vehicles, miscellaneous	18 million pounds.

This amount increased after the battle in the mountain, and the other intermittent battles following it from time to time. As for indirect losses they are estimated to be hundreds of millions of pounds.

Perhaps the most important factor in the losses is theft and nonpayment by subscribers. The size of the amount stolen during some years of the war is estimated to be more than half of total electric power and there were two types:

Firstly: Subscribers undertook to "tap lines" and to pay a portion of the consumption and the tariffs, and this category included many Lebanese.



Secondly: Included nonsubscribers, and the thievery by means of line tapping was facilitated in the absence of the state without subscription.

Included in indirect losses is the cost of repair which consumes further time and financial burdens. The repeated breakdowns resulted in repeated repair which delayed operations in other projects considered to guarantee the development of future consumption and that development is estimated at about 15 percent per year. Also the interruption of the electrical current prevented the utility from selling quantities of power.

In the area of costs, fuel is considered to be the most important factor in the hemorrhaging of the Electric Utility's resources and shared in causing the accumulation of debts. Power depended tremendously upon the thermal stations and especially al-Dhawq station because of the breakdown of the network which connected the stations with the suspended network power plant due to the ravages of war. It was noted that al-Dhawq station was consuming daily about 1,000 tons of heavy oil over and above its normal daily consumption. The value of this amount is estimated at about 570,000 pounds.

According to the reports of utility's chairman of the board, Mr Ilyas al-Nimar, the value of the financial burden resulting from increased fuel consumption had reached about 70 million pounds.

Since the utility cannot pay the price of the fuel, debts accumulated on it to the advantage of the Ministry of Industry and Petroleum which operates an oil refinery in Tripoli and al-Zaharani on its account.

Minister George Afram complained to the Cabinet requesting that necessary measures be taken to settle the debts payable by the Electric Utility and which amounted up to last September to more than 1.375 billion pounds. The minister indicated the necessity of paying this amount because it represented an important factor in continued refinery production especially in view of guaranteeing the purchase of crude oil and refined products from abroad.

It is known that fuel prices for the Electric Utility are subsidized by the Ministry of Oil and Industry's independent fund which pays a portion of the cost. As an example of that the sale price of 1,000 liters of the heavy oil, delivered to the utility, is 1,050 pounds whereas its cost exceeds this price by 216 pounds paid for by the fund. As for fuel oil, the fund bears 268 pounds of its cost, since it is sold to the utility for 650 pounds for 1,000 liters.

In view of the huge size of the deficit from which the independent fund for fuel is suffering, amounting to about 2.3 billion pounds, the oil minister, George Afram, resolved to authorize a financial plan, not only to do away with this deficit, but to make available a positive cash flow in the fund amounting to about 1 million pounds yearly. This would be done by increasing the prices of the fuels which would definitely include quantities consumed by electric power generation, and in turn would lead to tangible increases in the cost of electricity as well as corresponding increases in the compounded losses.



In the opinion of economic experts the Lebanese Electric Utility should be an economically profitable organization and in order to accomplish this it is sufficient for it to have a network of subscribers comprised of more than 600,000 paying customers.

Electric Utility experts support this opinion, on the basis of selling the production at a price exceeding cost by a reasonable margin of profit, and not at a price which is less as is the case currently.

If all the cost factors of production have increased, starting with labor costs and ending with fuel costs and including equipment and installations, is it possible to increase the prices to the consumers to a sufficient extent?

The utility is public and provides a service to all Lebanese, and participates in national economic development, and even though prices are currently below the costs, the subscribing residential and industrial customers are complaining of the increased prices and are demanding their decrease from the state.

In regards to that, the minister of oil and industry, who is among the industrialists who are complaining about the increased electrical tariffs, recognizes the necessity of heading for decreased costs. It would be possible to attain this goal by gradually switching from the use of fossil fuels to the use of bituminous coal in the generation of electrical power.

The president of the National Council for Foreign Economic Relations, Sami Marun, had taken notice of this subject previously, and he compiled a study containing suggestions with regards to the diversification of power sources in Lebanon and the use of bituminous coal as a substitute for fuel and heavy oil in the Electric Utility's power plants and in heavy industries such as cement and steel.

The study revealed that Lebanon primarily depends upon petroleum for its energy production (80 percent) to the extent that consumption during 1982 reached the following:

Firstly: The Lebanese Electric Organization. Fuel oil 335,792 kiloliters with a value of 404 million pounds.

Liquid gas 140,566 kiloliters with a value of 175 million pounds.

Secondly: The Qadisha Electric Company: Fuel oil 115,000 kiloliters with a value of 104 million pounds.

Thirdly: Lebanese Industries (cement and steel): Fuel oil 500,000 kiloliters with a value of 540 million pounds.

The total then was 1.133 million pounds, and the total subsidy recorded by the state in behalf of this amount during 1982 was about 300 million pounds.

Therefore the National Council for Foreign Economic Relations responded with the suggestion of diversifying the energy sources in Lebanon, for economic and

strategic reasons and also the choosing of bituminous coal as a basic substance in the production of energy. The following supports this:

--improvement of conditions of production in power plants which use petroleum while switching some over to bituminous coal.

--encouraging Lebanese to use some applications of solar energy (water heating and home heating).

The council's choice of bituminous coal is distinguished by the following:

1. The price of bituminous coal is low compared to the price of fuel oil, to the extent that in the world market it costs half as much. That is, if a ton of fuel oil is 680 pounds, then the cost of an equivalent amount of coal in terms of energy production would be only 344 pounds.

Based upon this the surplus resulting from the exchange of fuel oil with bituminous coal in the Electric Utility alone would be about 677 million pounds during the period 1984-1985, which would cover all the necessary investments for the project.

2. Bituminous coal will not be subject to price increases as occurred for oil because of the huge supplies existent.

3. Bituminous coal abounds in most countries of the world with which Lebanon trades which would facilitate its supply with the possibility of including that in the scope of commercial agreements.

4. The possibility that Lebanese industries could use bituminous coal as a substitute for fuel oil which would help in lowering their costs allowing them to compete more effectively in Lebanese and world markets.

5. The possibility of setting up chemical industries spun off by the use of coal.

6. The ease of substituting bituminous coal for fuel oil in thermal power plants, cement factories, and steel factories by way of relatively slight modifications in equipment.

7. Methods of storage and use are well-developed and safe either from a point of view of incidents which accompany the use of coal or in relation to the pollution of the environment. It is estimated that before 1990 most electrical generation plants and cement plants in the industrialized nations will have changed over to the use of coal as a substitute for fuel oil.

In that the importation of coal requires specialized ports, the report of the National Council for Foreign Economic Relations saw the need for 130 million pounds to construct this port which would consist of a wharf, storage facilities with a capacity of 240,000 tons not to mention unloading and loading equipment, and administrative buildings.

The cost of converting each cement or steel factory was estimated in the study to be about 62 million pounds including: land for storage, the crusher, and unloading equipment. It is understood that this amount of money would be recompensed by the surplus resulting from the use of bituminous coal rather than fuel oil.

Does that mean that Lebanon will enter the coal age? The minister of oil and industry, George Afram, as director of the National Energy Council, says that he is studying this subject with his colleague, the minister of Hydroelectric Resources, Housing and Cooperatives, Engineer Baha' al-Din al-Basat, and that the opinions were in agreement concerning the switch from the use of fuel oil to bituminous coal in the generation of electric power. The process of transformation will be accomplished gradually, such that each new thermal power plant will have to run on coal whereas existing plants will continue to operate on fuel oil so that they are utilized economically.

This experiment has succeeded in numerous industrial countries, will it succeed in Lebanon, and will it lead to the lowering of the cost of electricity?

Year	Cost of Power Using Fuel Oil	Cost of Power Using Coal	Difference
1984	1,100,160	551,790	548,370
1985	1,276,800	640,395	636,405
1986	1,395,840	700,171	696,669
1987	1,502,730	753,708	749,022
1988	1,760,000	882,700	877,300
1989	1,992,320	999,273	993,047
1990	2,150,400	1,078,560	1,071,840
TOTAL	11,178,250	5,606,597	5,571,653

Surplus in case of converting electric, cement, and steel, power plants from fuel oil to bituminous coal according to estimates according to the study of the National Council for Foreign Economic Relations.

12390

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## BRIEFS

GAS RESERVES--Doha, 18 Feb (QNA)--It was reported here today that the gas reserves in Qatar exceed 100 trillion cubic feet and that this will cover the internal requirements and will allow for the export of more than 1 billion cubic feet daily for a period of more than 100 years. In a statement to QNA, Shaykh 'Abd al-Rahman ibn Jabr al Thani, deputy director general of the technical center for industrial development in Qatar, said the returns from gas exports to the consuming countries will be more than \$1 billion per year. He said the value of exports of gas industries increased from 72 million Qatari riyals in the year 1977 to about 1.95 billion riyals in 1983. [Excerpts] [GF191447 Doha QNA in Arabic 1210 GMT 18 Feb 84]

CSO: 4400/161

MINISTRIES PLAN, FULFILL PRODUCTION QUOTAS

1984 Supply Ministry Plan

Damascus AL-BA'TH in Arabic 25 Oct 83 p 4

[Article: "The Advisory Council of the Ministry of Supply Continues Its Discussions Concerning Next Year's Plan"]

[Text] Comrade Muhammad Ghabbash, minister of supply and internal trade, was the chairman at a meeting of the ministry's Advisory Council which pursued its discussions concerning the reports submitted and concerning the ministry's plan for the upcoming year.

The council discussed the plan of the General Grain Trading and Industries Organization [GGTI] and the plan of the General Retail Trade Corporation.

When the GGTI's plan was being discussed, it was learned that the GGTI had fulfilled its plan. By the third quarter [of 1983] sales had totalled 1.772 billion Syrian pounds. It was also learned that the GGTI had fulfilled its quota with regard to foreign sales--which totalled 110 million Syrian pounds. Furthermore, domestic sales of wheat, barley, chickpeas, and lentils totalled 1.385 billion Syrian pounds.

After finishing with this topic, the Advisory Council then discussed what had been implemented in the plan dealing with training courses and the labor force and it examined in general fashion the views of the GGTI and its affiliate, and it turned out that matters were proceeding satisfactorily.

The council then discussed the investment plan of a number of supply projects. They included those involving the flour mills and warehouses in [the provinces of] Damascus, Tartus, Idlib, Dar'a, al-Suwayda', and al-Hasakah. After that, the council examined the draft plan for next year.



## Carpet Industry Quota

Damascus AL-BA'TH in Arabic 27 Oct 83 p 5

[Article: "Guidance Units Totally Fulfill Their Annual Plan"]

[Text] The guidance units of the hand-made carpet-making industry in our country are fulfilling their production plan this year. The plan calls for producing a total of 70,000 square meters of various types of carpets worth a total of about 33,320,000 Syrian pounds.

Comrade Hanna Hanna, head of the Directorate of Rural Revitalization, told the following to our AL-BA'TH correspondent: "Most of the guidance units in our nation have finished fulfilling their quotas. Carpets which they have produced, which include numerous different types on in the guidance unit centers in the provinces, have been submitted to the Damascus hand-made ~~carpet~~ fair to be held during the current winter season.

"Furthermore, contracts have been concluded to establish 24 new centers for the Directorate of Rural Revitalization in the nation's various provinces during the current year. The initial loan for beginning the construction of the installations of these centers has already been disbursed. After these centers have been built, the number of carpet-producing units in the nation will come to a total of 125 large-scale and small-scale guidance units employing a total of more than 15,000 female workers.

"In another realm, the directorate has finished holding its training course for trainees learning to work in the carpet industry. The course lasted a whole month, and in the course the trainees learned theoretical information about carpet making and they also went through a course of practical training in the al-Rahibiyah unit which lasted a total of 2 weeks. The trainees also learned information concerning health which will be necessary for them to know when working in the guidance units. This course was conducted in cooperation with the Social Insurance Organization and the Child Care Administration."

Tartus--The Tartus Provincial Local Administration Council, in its meeting yesterday which was attended by the governor of the province, ratified the draft for the province's independent budget. The size of the budget is 171,235,000 Syrian pounds. The council also examined the investment budget, the size of which is 216,700,000 Syrian pounds.

## 1984 Agricultural Production Quota

Damascus AL-BA'TH in Arabic 1 Nov 83 p 5

[Article by 'Ali (Jamul): "The 1984 Agricultural Production Plan for the Province of Hims"]

[Text] The goal of the plan is to increase the total area under irrigation and to increase the total area planted with corn, wheat, spring and fall potatoes, and onions.

The Agricultural Council in Hims has adopted the agricultural production plan for the province for 1984 along with the quota figures which it contains and which have been adopted in accordance with data provided by the Village Register on the rural level and in accordance with the data that was available to the Directorate of Agriculture and its agencies as well as the Peasant Farmers' Federation and its leagues on the basis of the plan's principal base year. The plan was adopted after being discussed at the Ministry of Agriculture as well as at various other agencies concerned. This plan both meets the objectives of development in the sector of agriculture and demonstrates concern about the issue of agriculture. It concentrates on expansion of the total area under irrigation, increasing the total area planted with, and the production of, corn, spring and fall potatoes, onions, and wheat, and increasing the level of the intensification of agriculture in irrigated lands.

When the plan was being prepared, it was borne in mind that there should be phases when the current year's plan should be evaluated and there should be certain basic elements and requirements for implementation of the plan in terms of considerations involving mechanization, human resources, climate, and the environment.

### The Plan's Goals and Factors Concerning It

The agricultural production plan--whose quota figures were distributed in programmed fashion to the agencies of the agricultural sector in order that they implement them after final approval from the Branch Agricultural Council, the Ministry of Agriculture, and the General Peasant Farmers' Federation--has the objectives of achieving agricultural development, meeting domestic consumption requirements for agricultural products, decreasing the need for imports as much as possible, meeting the needs which agricultural industries have for agricultural raw materials, and striving to export as many as possible of our nation's surplus agricultural products which are not required by our domestic consumption, agricultural industries, and strategic reserves.

## Advanced Programs for the Agricultural Cycle in the Plan, and a High Level in the Rate of Intensification of Agriculture

Eng Talal Murad, head of the Planning and Statistics Office and secretary of the Agricultural Council, had the following to say: "In order to totally achieve our plan's program in accordance with its principal objectives, we have requested the various sectors concerned with implementation as well as the agricultural committees in the Ba'th Party branch organizations to draw up the requirements for year-round implementation on the basis of the current situation in each district. The reason for this is that the plan was drawn up on the basis of our agriculture's situation and it took into consideration the program for agricultural intensification in accordance with the climatic and environmental characteristics of each agricultural area as well as the agricultural cycles appropriate for each of these areas in order that the highest possible production be achieved and in order that all agricultural resources be utilized in a technical fashion and in accordance with the requirements of modern technical science. The rate of intensification for the irrigated area taken as a whole was set at 131 percent, and this was considered to be the highest rate possible to achieve in production. Also, the agricultural cycles were established in accordance with the sources of irrigation water--that is, the rivers, springs (from which irrigation water is obtained both by hand and by pumps), surface wells, artesian wells, and dams. Concerning irrigated land in particular, the plan's program calls for an increase of 5,000 dunams over the 1983 plan in terms of the total area planted with corn to be used as fodder. In addition to this, there is to be an increase in the total area planted with potatoes and onions. Furthermore, there is to be an emphasis on principal crops such as cotton and sugar beets. Concerning the agricultural cycles of unirrigated lands, the new plan calls for an increase of 1926 hectares over the current plan in terms of area planted with the various types of wheat."

### The Areas of Agricultural Settlement and Their Agricultural Cycles Played a Role in the Plan

"In addition to the objectives which we have talked about in the realm of agricultural development, the agricultural intensification programs, and the yearly agricultural cycles, the new plan is also based on the [current] situation in the four areas of agricultural settlement in the province and has taken into consideration things such as the fertility of the soil, the environment, and the climate. It was on the basis of these things that the plan set the levels of total area to be utilized for the various crops and the estimated production to be achieved with these crops. Two agricultural cycles were set for the first area. Most of the land in this first area is rocky and of low fertility, so the cycle set for it will consist of having 50 percent of the land being devoted to the barley crop and 50 percent of the land being fallow. The second area includes good

land, and therefore the cycle set for it was 50 percent couch grasses and 50 percent high-yield wheat, and there is to be no more fallow land there.

"As for the second area of settlement, it has land of low fertility where barley will be planted and it also has good land where wheat will be planted. A total of 29 percent of this area is fallow land. Most of the land in the third area of settlement is highly fertile land. For this reason, it was decided to raise the rate of intensification in this area to 60 percent--instead of 50 percent--during the next plan period. This increase in agricultural intensification will be at the expense of the fallow land. It was decided to plant the latter area with legumes and wheat. As for the fourth area of agricultural settlement, the agricultural cycle there will be as follows--33 percent of the area will be planted with barley and the rest will be fallow land.

"In conjunction with the rates of intensification and the quota figures of the plan, it would be useful for us to utilize the following table in order to show a comparison between the areas which the 1983 and 1984 plans set aside for the most important crops, along with a comparison of the uses of land made in 1983 and the uses of land to be made in 1984. [See Table 1.]

"The table, by means of its comparison, shows us that there will be an increase in the total area of land under irrigation in the 1984 plan because of the digging of new artesian wells. The table also shows a decrease in total unirrigated land because of the increase in area [used as irrigated land] and an increase in the number of buildings and facilities to be built on the land. In addition to this, there is to be an increase of 46 hectares in the total area occupied by lakes, particularly in the al-Rastan area where a correction has been undertaken in the total area occupied by the al-Rastan dam lake in accordance with the survey [document] sent [to us] by the Directorate of Technical Services. The table also shows us that the upcoming plan period also involves increasing the total area planted with forest-tree seedlings. This will be at the expense of meadow and pasture areas and will be because of expansion in the planting of forest-tree seedlings in areas where originally no trees have grown. The plan also calls for increases in the total irrigated and unirrigated areas where trees will be planted due to the implementation of projects dealing with afforestation throughout the Green Belt and fruit-tree planting projects. The plan's tables and data indicate that the increase as far as the main crops are concerned will be between 10 and 25 percent in terms of both the irrigated and unirrigated land utilized. The increase will be 928 hectares for the wheat crop, 377 hectares for potatoes, 303 hectares for winter vegetable crops, 659 hectares for corn, 271 hectares for onions, 49 hectares for cucumbers, and 266 hectares for other summer vegetable crops. The total area devoted to some of the crops will decrease because of expansion in the total area under irrigation."



Table 1. Comparison of Land Usage Between the 1983 and 1984 Plans  
(Area Given in Hectares)

<u>Use Made of Land</u>	<u>1983 Plan</u>	<u>1984 Plan</u>	<u>Difference</u>
Total irrigated land	44,974	45,403	+429
Total unirrigated land	323,363	320,344	-3,019
Land utilized	368,337	365,747	-2,590
Buildings and facilities	45,441	48,083	+2,642
Lakes and swamp areas	5,771	5,817	+46
Rocky unirrigated land	926,786	926,786	-
Meadows and pastures	2,754,976	2,753,986	-990
Forest areas	121,027	121,919	+892
Irrigated afforested areas	5,487	5,555	+68
Unirrigated afforested areas	44,300	45,283	+983

### 1983 Agricultural Production Figures

Damascus AL-BA'TH in Arabic 1 Nov 83 p 5

[Article: "In Preparation for the New Agricultural Season: Discussing the Agricultural Production Plans and Providing the Production Requirements"]

[Text] The organizations responsible for agriculture--including both plant and animal production--are continuing to deal with all of the issues concerning agricultural production, to provide the requirements for this production, and to discuss next year's production plans as well as means of guaranteeing an increase in this production.

The peasant farmer federations have completed their study and preparation of the agricultural production plan for the next agricultural season. They met for several days in the building belonging to the General Peasant Farmers' Federation, and the chairman of their meetings was Comrade Mustafa al-'Ayid, head of the federation. Their



discussions basically focused on the role of the cooperative sector--which accounts for 75 percent of the total agricultural land area in the country--in implementing the agricultural plan for the upcoming agricultural season. Their discussions also focused on the crops which basically contribute toward increasing development and bolstering the national economy.

During these meetings, Comrade al-'Ayid stressed the importance of increasing production and increasing the yield per unit of agricultural area. He said that this should be done by means of keeping track of the situation on a daily basis and making on-the-spot inspections in the fields as well as dealing with the difficulties which constitute obstacles to the process of implementing the agricultural plan. He also pointed out the necessity of providing the requirements and prerequisites for fulfilling the agricultural plan. These requirements include fertilizers, seed, pesticides, and other materials, and they also include the utilization of all possible capacities for the purpose of insuring the success of the agricultural plan for the upcoming agricultural season.

In addition to this, the process of marketing our agricultural crops has enjoyed success which has exceeded some of people's expectations. For example, a total of 734,035 tons of grain crops were marketed. This total amount included 638,687 tons of wheat, 41,064 tons of barley, 25,269 tons of lentils, and 29,015 tons of chickpeas. Also, 23,685 tons of apples, 62,855 tons of tomatoes, and 25,219 tons of red and white onions were marketed. Furthermore, as of 6 October 1983 a total of 1,118,000 tons of sugar beets were marketed. This season's sugar beet processing cycle has already ended in our nation's factories and companies--with the exception of the sugar beet processing cycle at the plants in Hims and 'Adra. The former will be completing its cycle this week, and the latter will be completing its cycle by the middle of next month.

This year approximately 1,118,000 tons of sugar beets were processed, and this represents 116 percent fulfillment of the plan. The processing of this quantity of sugar beets resulted in a production of about 111,000 tons of white sugar and 193,000 tons of both moist and dry sugar beet bagasse which will be distributed to the peasant farmer and cooperative associations as concentrated fodder for their animals.

Moreover, early agricultural work was recently begun in connection with the fall planting of the sugar beet crop in the two areas of al-Rastan and Tall Bisah in the province of Hims. Peasant farmer committees have been formed for the purpose of assuring the completion of the planting of the crop before the beginning of next month. A total of 20,000 dunams of land area have been set aside for the planting of this crop.

In addition to this, preparatory work has already begun on the implementation of next season's agricultural production plan program for the various areas of settlement on the basis of the agricultural cycles.

It is anticipated that our nation's total cotton production this season will be as high as 450,000 tons of raw cotton, given the fact that the total area planted with cotton was 167,000 hectares. Production during the 1983 season was about 422,000 tons, and the total area planted for that season was 158,000 hectares, with a yield of 2,684 kilograms per hectare. Our nation thus occupied third place worldwide in terms of yield of cotton per unit of agricultural area planted. This compares favorably with 1981, when Syria took sixth place in this regard. During the next few years it is anticipated that Syria will occupy first place in terms of cotton yield per unit of agricultural area planted.

During the current season, a total area of 300,000 dunams was planted by means of the utilization of mechanical seeding machines belonging to the General Agricultural Mechanization Organization, whereas plans for this season called for planting a total area of only 200,000 dunams. Thus the rate of implementation in this regard was about 150 percent. Next year's season calls for the mechanized planting of cotton, by means of mechanical seeding machines, over a total area of 600,000 dunams. It is also anticipated that, during the next 5 years, all of the cotton planting will be done by means of mechanization.

#### Damascus Province Agricultural Plan

Damascus AL-BA'TH in Arabic 1 Nov 83 p 5

[Article by Jihad al-Ahmar: "The Plan of the Directorate of Agriculture and Agrarian Reform in the Province of Damascus for 1983 Till the End of the Tenth Month"]

[Text] The agricultural sector plays a basic and major role in the life and development of the nations of the world. For this reason, the national Ba'th Party congresses have devoted special attention to the question of agriculture and have made the necessary plans and decisions which will serve to bring agricultural production up to the level required.

The best proof of this has been the meetings of the seventh session of the Central Committee of the Ba'th Party which devoted a great deal of their attention to the question of agriculture. They also stressed the necessity of calling to account those individuals in this field who have been negligent. On the strength of this, we have felt that it is worthwhile to review the work done by the Directorate of Agriculture and Agrarian Reform in order to shed some

light on what achievements have been made and on some of the difficulties which have constituted obstacles to the process of carrying out these achievements. During 1983 the Directorate of Agriculture and Agrarian Reform provided expertise, services, and guidance which had the objective of facilitating the development and growth of the sector of agriculture--including both plant and animal production--in accordance with the nation's general policy. Naturally these are things, the implementation of which requires coordination with the other government bodies in the province. For this reason, both an investment and a production plan were established on the basis of statistics which were approved by the Higher Agricultural Council and the Higher Planning Council. The Directorate also, via its branch organizations in the districts, is providing various services to the peasant farmers in the following realms:

One way the directorate is providing these services is by means of agricultural guidance and the guidance units which the directorate is setting up. Three guidance units were set up in 1981 in al-Ghazlaniyah, Sa'sa', and Kafr Hawr, and in 1982 ten more guidance units were set up in al-Dumayr, Qal'at Jandal, Ashrafiyat Sahnaya, Dayr Qanun, Sarghaya, al-Nashabiyah, Zabdin, Ra's al-'Ayn in Birud, Zakiyah, and Jirud.

In 1983 13 more guidance units were set up in al-Dimas, 'Irbin, Ma'lula, Saydnaya, al-Tibah, Judaydat Yabus, and other places. More of these guidance units will be set up and they will be provided with technical personnel such as engineers, veterinary doctors, and overseers to serve the farmers in places as close as possible to their fields. This will be done in order to blanket the province with guidance units so that they can provide their agricultural and veterinary services.

Also, the Guidance Department will be putting guidance unit fields into operation. A total of 107 guidance unit fields and guidance unit truck farms have been set up, and monthly meetings and conferences as well as "field days" have been held dealing with farming. All of this has enabled the peasant farmers to see the guidance unit truck farms and fields firsthand, to see how modern methods are utilized in agriculture, to see how machinery is used, and to see how fertilizers are applied. These things are explained during the "field days" [missing text] meetings so that they are put into practice [missing text] for them. In addition to this, publications and posters have been distributed and instructional films have been shown in many villages of the province.

In the realm of planting new trees and forest areas, the following has been accomplished: A total of 1,276,500 forest-tree seedlings have been planted, 1,194.5 hectares have been bulldozed for planting, 3,125,600 forest-tree seedlings have been produced, and 27.1 kilometers of forest roads have been built.

As for the planting of new fruit trees, the following has been accomplished: As of 1 October 1983 a total of 30,000 dunams were prepared [for the planting of such trees], a total of 723,390 fruit-tree seedlings were distributed to the various areas under irrigation for the planting of fruit trees, and pesticide operations have been undertaken. In addition to this, the veterinary services offices, both in their headquarters areas and in the districts, are undertaking the treatment of various animals in order to rid them of diseases and parasites. In fact, the statistics for animals which have already been treated are as follows:

Animals treated at clinics--cows - 4,093; sheep - 4,701; goats - 1,775; and horses - 970.

Animals treated on a mass scale for parasites as of 31 October 1983--cows - 15,096; sheep - 471,622; goats - 66,370; and poultry - 20,075.

The production plan for the 1983 winter season has been fulfilled, and this includes the production plan dealing with fruit-tree seedlings in the agricultural centers, the production plan of the forest-tree seedling nurseries, and the plan involving expansion of artificial afforestation.

As for grain production, the following is to be noted:

Barley: The production rate on irrigated lands was 275 percent because the total area planted was 285 percent of what was called for in the plan. Peasant farmers were anxious to plant the land with this crop because this crop requires little irrigation and because it provides fodder for their cattle. With unirrigated land the rate of production was 60 percent, and this was because of the fact that the total area planted as compared with that called for in the plan was only 48 percent. This was particularly true in the first and third areas of settlement because of heavy snowfall, the high cost of labor, and the difficulty of utilizing mechanization in the above-mentioned mountainous areas. The overall rate of production, however, was 104 percent, and this was due to a high production rate in the irrigated lands.

Regular wheat: The final production rate for regular wheat was only 88 percent, and this was because of the low production rate of the unirrigated lands--which totalled only 70 percent. The reason for this was the low total area planted in the first area of settlement (39 percent) and the second area of settlement (46 percent) and because the third, fourth, and fifth areas of settlement were planted.

Lentils: The overall production rate in the case of lentils was 48 percent, and this was due to the low yield and the low total area planted. Only 62 percent of the area called for in the plan was planted and the yield was only 59 percent, and the reason for this was the low yield and low total area planted in the first and second



areas of settlement and because a low total area was planted in the third area of settlement.

Vetches and Seeds: The production rate in the case of vetches and seeds was 110 percent, and this was because the production rate in irrigated lands went up to 159 percent. In the case of unirrigated lands, however, total production went down to 6 percent because of the low total area planted in the first area of settlement (8 percent) and the second area of settlement (6 percent) for the same reasons listed above.

Chickpeas: The production rate for chickpeas was only 62 percent, and this was due to the low total area planted in the first area of settlement.

9468

CSO: 4404/209



# PROGRAM BUILDS 'GREEN BELT' AROUND HIMS

Damascus TISHRIN in Arabic 21 Oct 83 p 3

[Article by 'Ali Ma'ruf in Hims: "The Agricultural Reclamation of 45,000 dunams Begins Within the Framework of the Second Phase of the 'Green Belt' Project"]

[Text] After having completed work on restricted areas in the previous development plan, and having reclaimed, prepared, and planted 90,000 dunams, the directorate of the Green Belt project began in early February 1983 to carry out the second phase of the contract with the World Food Organization concerned with the preparation and planting of 45,000 dunams of land distributed throughout the Green Belt as follows:

The first al-Jazirah in the low district, 5000 dunams; the second al-Jazirah in the center district, 20,000 dunams; and the third al-Jazirah in the al-Makhram district, 20,000 dunams. Of this area 17,000 dunams have been completed (2000 in the first al-Jazirah, 7000 in the second, and 8000 in the third) of which 7500 dunams have been planted with grapes, almonds, and pistachios.

In the coming season there remains more than 10,000 dunams to be planted in each of the following 3 years up to 15,000 dunams per year until the program ends in 1985.

## Free Planting and Rock Removal Machinery

Mr Khalid Zaytun, projector director, affirmed that supervisory units over these three areas are now beginning to inquire after the wishes of the farmers participating in this program according to the common plan of the agriculture office. This calls for planting three fields with vines and the remainder with almonds or pistachios or both. He added that the project office is trying to ensure free planting and is resolved to use machinery that can assist in the breaking and removal of rocks. This machinery, which has been used previously in the mountainous districts, will be used while they wait for other specialized rock-crushers which have been imported recently but are caught up in customs clearances procedures. This machinery cannot be used there but when it can be employed in the 'Green Belt' district and in places where the rainfall is between 250 and 300 millimeters.

## Planting Fruit Trees

In the course of Mr Zaytun's conversation he spoke on the fruit trees planting program in the province and said that tree planting teams have been formed in the districts. They are now working on surveying the fields and counting the trees in the old groves, in addition to recording the farmers' requirements for this kind of tree planting in the coming season. This comes within the scope of the new duties the project office has been charged with, beginning with ensuring the planting and cultivation of fruit trees and including the supervision and monitoring of them. This is the duty of the special fruit-tree planting teams. Mr Zaytun, who is director of both programs, continued: "We are now organizing six teams in the province to carry out these duties in various districts after they are equipped with the necessary tools and equipment.

## The Difficulties

Even though technicians have been equally assigned to these teams which are all led by agronomists, the shortage of equipment makes it impossible to implement the plan which, in addition to the Green Belt and the fruit-trees programs, includes 14,000 dunams in the western mountains districts of Hims that calls for 16 pieces of heavy machinery, even though there are only three pieces available now.

## Last Words

This great deficiency of heavy machinery is disrupting work and causing partial implementation and it is further upsetting the farmers' confidence who have been otherwise pleased by the new kinds of equipment, especially the rock-crushers that break and remove the rocks in a modern manner, a job that in past years hampered the Green Belt project and complicated setting it in place. These rocks even made large surveyed areas unusable because of the impossibility of removing the rocks. The cultivation of these fields was postponed entirely for a number of years because of the farmers' problems with rock removal and the project's inability to assume the task. But to provide something to ensure that the planting is free from disorderliness and for the project office to monitor the seedlings and care for the planting is a task that requires a concerted effort to provide this equipment and to provide new marketing channels especially for grapes, which top the list of planned crops for the Green Belt. The commitment to the efforts expended in this area for this crop will continue through the years.

9587

CSO: 4404/207

# RECONSTRUCTION, RESETTLEMENT PROGRAM PROCEEDS IN AL-QUNAYTIRAH

Damascus TISHRIN in Arabic 16 Oct 83 p 3

[Text] The budgetary investment funds for al-Qunaytirah province will amount to 125 million Syrian pounds while autonomous credits will amount to 23.5 million pounds.

Probably the most important investment projects are the projects of the executive commission in the province and they are the building of a special model village for provincial government workers who now live in Damascus or elsewhere. This is to repatriate them into the forward area villages near their work places. There are 310 housing units in this project.

One of the other projects of the executive commission is to repopulate the nine liberated villages, namely al-Burayqah, al-Hamidiyah, al-Asbah, al-Rafid, Bir al-'Ajam, Sayda, al-Samdaniyah, al-Hurriyah, and al-Qahtaniyah. In addition it will build a number of buildings for organizations such as the government complex, the party branch command building, the automated bakery, and a youth center. This reconstruction, in the words of Khalid Numayri who is a member of the executive board responsible for supply, internal trade, and planning departments, will have a great impact on increasing one's attachment to the land and in attracting back the refugee families who have suffered spiritual exile from their land.

## The Supply Sector

On the supply situation in the province Mr Khalid Numayri said: "as for the forward area villages, the supply situation is settled for the most part, especially in the provision of foodstuffs. As for building materials, recently a branch office for reconstruction was organized. Our great hope is that it will have a prominent role in ensuring the citizens' needs along with the needs of the branch offices of the public sector companies, especially since the needs of the region are great now that it is in the state of building and reconstruction."

## Other Projects

An automatic bakery was built in al-Khadami neighborhood in the model village and it will be ready shortly after the installation of two production lines.

Many projects have already been inaugurated for the 10th anniversary of the October War. The most important of these are the court wing of the government complex, the vocational high school at Khan Arnabah, the fodder distribution center, the fruit and vegetable company at 'Ayn al-Nuriyah crossroads. The rural social center has been opened in the southern sector, in addition to the province guesthouse, clinics, and the reconstruction branch headquarters, and other projects.

#### Water

As for the water projects he said:

"There are a number of water projects that are being implemented at the housing compounds and villages, currently in progress. These projects will have a great impact on meeting the water needs of the province's population."

What are the problems that confront the refugees cooperatives?

"As for their employment we are suffering from a problem with the schools, since we lack land on which to build them.

"These cooperatives fall within administrative districts that have no work. Our great hope is that these cooperatives become attached to the village municipalities, immediately, to allow them to benefit from the services the municipalities can afford them, namely projects for health disbursement, schools, systematic electric service in the camps, etc. The government is giving all its efforts and resources to employing the sons of al-Qunaytirah province in their home districts."

9587

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## BRIEFS

PEST CONTROL MEASURES INAUGURATED--Currently the special office for agricultural pest control within the ministry of agriculture and agrarian reform is preparing a broadscale campaign to combat weeds and plants that threaten broadleaf and oats crops in an attempt to protect them in the coming growing season. Likewise in fields set aside for wheat and barley in al-Hasakah province airstrips are being laid out and asphalted so crop-dusters can be used. This is being done to enable an increase in the amount of spray chemicals each plane can carry. The engineer 'Abd al-Rahman al-Barbandi, director of the agriculture pest control office, added that now the necessary steps were being taken and prepared to set up a comprehensive campaign to combat harmful insects in all regions of al-Ladhaqiyah province which is to begin in mid-November. Al-Barbandi indicated that the office had expended great efforts during the current growing season to protect all crops so that they gave yields surpassing the anticipated figures. This was achieved through pest control work from the beginning of the year that covered the following acreage: 127,170 dunams of oats: 1,435,000 dunams against broad-leafed plants that attack wheat: 466,796 dunams against insects that attack wheat: more than 2 million dunams against insects and boll-weevils; 150,000 dunams of sugar-beet fields, in addition to pest control for nearly 4 million almond and pistachio trees and almost 500,000 dunams sprayed to control grasshoppers. [Text] [Damascus AL-BA'TH in Arabic 7 Nov 83 p 4] 9587

CSO: 4404/207



## AFGHANISTAN

### BAKHTAR ON REAGAN ADMINISTRATION'S SOUTH ASIA POLICY

LD101436 Kabul BAKHTAR in English 0427 GMT 10 Feb 84

[Text] Kabul, 10 Feb, BAKHTAR--The BBC has reported that the ex-attache of the Embassy of France in Kabul believes that the future of Afghanistan is of no interest to the U.S. which ostensibly has no clear-cut policy regarding Afghanistan.

To say that Afghanistan presents no interest to the U.S. means rudely to distort the truth. Washington has long been regarding this country in the heart of Asia as a potential military staging area. The destinies of the people of Afghanistan is another thing. At all times the United States has been indifferent to it. Afghanistan's social and economic backwardness does not concern the American leadership.

President Richard Nixon even said that Afghanistan should be preserved as a museum area of the medieval times.

The April Revolution of 1978 shattered the American plans for the economic and military subordination of Afghanistan and enraged Washington. It has attempted to strangle the April Revolution by discontinuing all aid to Afghanistan, including aid for projects already in progress. It has begun and is waging an undeclared war against the DRA in a bid to topple people's power and to establish a regime that would obey the White House dictates.

The British radio station obviously distorts facts when it alleges that the White House has no clear-cut policy regarding Afghanistan. Washington's policy is designed to tensions in South east Asia at all costs so as to take advantage of the situation and rudely to intervene in the region's affairs, as it is doing in the Middle East or in Latin America. For the American strategists, who stake on fomenting conflicts and confrontation, to lose Afghanistan as a flashpoint is tantamount to a renunciation of their expansionist policy. The WASHINGTON POST wrote cynically in late December 1983 that the U.S. would not put up with a settlement agreement, which is being negotiated under the UN aegis, even if this agreement brought about a withdrawal of the Soviet military contingent.

Herein is the gist of the Reagan administration's policy in South west Asia. This policy contradicts the interests of the Afghans and all the other peoples in the region.

CSO: 4600/366

PAPER COMMENTS ON IRAQI SHELLING

GF121720 Tehran IRNA in English 1710 GMT 12 Feb 84

[Text] Tehran, 12 Feb, IRNA--The morning daily JOMHURI-YE ESLAMI (ISLAMIC REPUBLIC) in its today issue editorialised on the decision of the Islamic Republic of Iran to retaliate the Iraqi attacks on the Iranian cities.

The editorial titled Retaliation, said that it was now time for reciproca-tion which the Islamic Republic of Iran has refrained from doing for the past one and a half year. Instead of encountering the Iraqi air and missile at-tacks on the residential cities of Iran, Iran had sufficed to warning, it added.

The Islamic Republic of Iran for the sake of God and as an Islamic obligation, warned the Iraqi regime, and in the same context today the retaliation was also an Islamic duty and for God's satisfaction. For this is the path which the Islamic Republic has chosen to tread towards its ultimate goal that is implementation of the decrees of God.

The editorial deplored inaction on the part of the international organisa-tions in condemning these brutal and inhuman attacks against the residential areas of the Iranian cities, its hospitals, homes, mosques and schools.

If the propaganda machinery of the world devourers had allowed, the pressure of the world public opinion would have stopped these crimes. However, this machinery is run by those who themselves have launched the war and it is not in their interests that the Iraqi forces should be defeated, it added.

The editorial further referred to the crimes of the Zionists against the Muslim people of the region on the one hand, and compromise of the reactionary governments of the region and their policy of appeasement towards the U.S., on the other hand.

In the course of the Iraqi-imposed war, propaganda machinery of the world devourers being fed by international Zionism, has done its best to portray Saddam as a peace-loving man and have tried to cover up his savage lies and brutal actions, it added.

According to the editorial Iran's refraining from retaliating the Iraqi attacks on the Iranian cities, was inevitable as a measure revealing the filthy nature of the Iraqi ruler and his collaborators, to the people of the world. The Islamic Republic officials fulfilled their responsibilities before God and people. Now the time has gone by when the dog was left unleashed with no sticks and stones around.

It is no longer tolerated that thousands of Muslim women, men and children of this country should become victims of the superpowers interests and means of preservation of the Iraqi regime and that the Iraqi cities should not be hit for the objective of protection of interests of the Islamic Republic of Iran.

Now that the enemies of the Islamic Republic of Iran have chosen to stand against the Islamic revolution of Iran, for the objective of protecting the Islamic revolution, why should not we take actions which will lead to downfall of our enemies?

There is no doubt that we should retaliate and this should be continued until downfall of the Iraqi ruling regime and liberation of the Iraqi-oppressed people from the claws of the Iraqi Ba'athist and till establishment of the government of Islamic justice, it concluded.

CSO: 4600/365

IRNA REPORTS TEHRAN'S FRIDAY PRAYERS

GF171718 Tehran IRNA in English 1635 GMT 17 Feb 84

[Text] Tehran, 17 Feb IRNA--The temporary leader of Friday mass prayers here, Hojjat ol-Eslam Emami Kashani, today called on the Muslim people of Iraq to learn from Muslim militants in Lebanon and rise in a concerted move against Saddam's ruling government in Iraq. The Hojjat ol-Eslam who was speaking to thousands of Tehranis during his sermons at the Friday congregational prayers addressed himself to the Iraqi people calling on them to take to either of the four cities of Karbala', al-Najaf, Kazimayn, and Samarra' in order to assure their own safety during Iran's attacks against positions inside Iraq in future days. Excerpts from his second sermon.

In the past our state administrators behaved so humbly towards foreign officials whereas in contrast they were so supercilious and oppressive towards our own people. They would stoop to foreigners whereas they led a dictatorial government at home...and they pretended to be concerned about the well-being of the people and Islam....

(On the forthcoming state-wide elections for the Islamic consultative assembly) Imam Khomeyni has insisted that every citizen should participate in the Majlis elections and that every person must exercise supervision over the conduct of the Majlis elections so that our forthcoming Majlis will not be any less.

During past elections for our Majlis, our foreign-inspired enemies published so much hostile propaganda for the purpose of bringing the masses into disarray and in order to defame the governments administrators before the people. Imam Khomeyni insists on a nation-wide participation at the polls for our Majlis in order that--God forbidding--the masses would not become indifferent, as they used to be, (during the past regime) towards the (parliamentary) elections....

In the past our country was under the dominating sway of the foreign powers and its government administrators were servile to the foreign powers, but after the triumph of the Islamic revolution the masses here liberated themselves from the burden of the dominating powers, and that was why our foreign enemies decided to embroil us in this war in order to exterminate our Islamic revolution. You recall that as the war broke out, foreign broadcasts would publish unsound forecasts for obvious reasons, claiming that Iran could not

possibly stand against the thrust by Saddam Husayn and Iraq because Iran had such a shattered armed forces, or because it did not have any air force worthy of mention. But later on they realized that relying on Islam and inspired by Imam Khomeyni's leadership Iran is capable of accomplishing virtually anything it decides to accomplish, and they therefore decided to admit some of the more recent accomplishments of the Iranian people...then in a bid to seal the doom of our revolution our foreign enemies entangled us in situation wherein they figured we would pound cities in Iraq but ever since they realized that Iran is capable of thwarting each and every plot...they have felt at their wits end....

We do not advocate war, nor do we insist to go on with the on-going war. We declared our conditions for a peaceful settlement of the war even as the war broke out, and we require the fulfillment of our earlier conditions whereby we demanded that in order to bring this war to an end, first the aggressor party, has to be identified and punished.

(To Iraqi Muslims): Rise you Muslim men and women in Iraq and join with the Mujahidin (Muslim militants in Iraq) in a concerted effort. The earthly world does not merit any value (in comparison with the hereafter). Our Prophet Mohammad (SAW) [peace be upon him] has said that God shall clothe him with the garb of misery who should give up jihad. In order to safeguard yourselves from the attacks of the Muslim forces of Iran do according to the official declarations published by the Islamic Republic of Iran, vacate your towns and cities and migrate to either one of the four towns of Karbala, al-Najaf, Kazimayn and Samarra'.

CSO: 4600/365



PAPER ON 'FAILURE' OF U.S. POLICY IN LEBANON

LD221354 Tehran IRNA in English 1050 GMT 22 Feb 84

[Text] Tehran, 21 Feb IRNA--The morning daily JOMHURI-YE ESLAMI in a commentary in its today issue discussed the failure of the U.S. policy in Lebanon.

The commentary titled "The Arch-Demon Never Understood", said that the recklessness and hooliganism of the superpowers have long been revealed to the world nations and the myth of their invulnerability shattered.

Referring to the efforts of the Western media to attribute the emergency pull-out of American forces from Lebanon, and saving of Amin al-Jumayyil to miscalculations on part of the American analysts and Reagan, the article argued that there were undeniable facts which proved that the massive apparatus for political analysis of the arch-demon "never understood".

It further stressed that the U.S. must pull out of all Islamic territories, otherwise any hesitation would lead to another humiliating expulsion of the U.S. from Lebanon, similar to the one it experienced in Iran.

According to the American magazine NEWSWEEK, quoting a book to be published next month, the Reagan administration was aware of the attacks of the Zionist forces on Lebanon, six months ahead of time. However, by "unfounded pre-judgment caused by ignorance" it did not make any move to stop it. Therefore, the Reagan administration, by its conduct, dug the graves of hundreds of American troops in Lebanon.

Referring to coordinated efforts of the U.S. Administration and the Zionist regime to attack Lebanon and consequent casualties suffered, the article said that superpowers were still suffering from post-World War II nostalgia. The privileges that the U.S. gained following bombardment of Hiroshima and Nagasaki, Japan, could no longer be enjoyed and relied upon at present times, because, it emphasised, at present the people have become aware of recklessness of superpowers and hence their vulnerability.

It then raised the question whether allocation of more than 365 billion dollars of the U.S. annual budget to military expenditure, would not make the

poor in the U.S. revolt against the government. And furthermore, do not Reagan and members of his administration know that the gap between the rich and the poor in the country in 1984, would be widest ever since World War II.

In the light of performance of the present U.S. Administration which had led to failure, the answer to these questions are "no", it said. Therefore, one should expect the U.S. to suffer more defeats and pay the price for its lack of understanding until such time as it is swept down the drain of history.

CSO: 4600/365

DESCRIPTION OF NEWSPAPERS PUBLISHED IN TEHRAN

GF211708 IRNA in English 1627 GMT 21 Feb 84

[Text] Tehran, 21 Feb IRNA--Today, after one hundred and forty years since the first Iranian newspaper was published, over one hundred publications are printed in Iran, seven of which are Tehran dailies.

Predominant by far are the mass circulation evening dailies KEYHAN and ETTELA'AT which are both published in the capital and are sent to the provinces by plane, train or coach to be distributed there in the early hours of the next day.

KEYHAN's wide circulation is backed by a large [word indistinct] of professional journalists and various political personalities contribute to it.

Along with the politicization of public opinion and the rising interest of the readers in international events, KEYHAN has put more emphasis on the foreign news, particularly those of Lebanon. Because due to historical and cultural affinities with the nations involved the Islamic Republic of Iran has followed the developments there with particular interest.

However, the developments in Latin America, Afghanistan and Southeast Asia also hit KEYHAN's headlines from time to time.

ETTELA'AT, the oldest Iranian newspaper in print, is noted for a highly pronounced, anti-imperialist stand voiced in its editorials and research articles. ETTELA'AT which enjoys a higher popularity in the provinces, has been following the reform issues such as the land reform bill with keen interest.

Both evening papers are normally published in twenty two pages. ETTELA'AT carries a weekly supplement on current developments in economic and cultural affairs.

Morning daily JOMHURI-YE ISLAMI [ISLAMIC REPUBLIC] whose former editor Hoseyn Musavi is now the prime minister, is the official organ of the Islamic Republic Party. The current chief editor is Masih Mohajer a member of the ulema who has had a traditional Islamic education and is the author of several books. More than any other daily, JOMHURI carries political analyses and its articles usually reflect the party line.

The ideological pages of the newspaper reflect the issue of universities, theological schools, cultural events and some philosophical essays. Its sports pages cover domestic and international games, while laying a greater emphasis on the developing nations efforts towards becoming active in this area.

JOMHURI was first published in 1979, and is said to have a circulation of around one hundred thousand.

AZADEGAN, formerly AYANDEGAN, is now printed under the supervision of an editorial board. Its weekly political reports usually on international events, are well prepared with a trenchant anti-imperialist tone. AZADEGAN's circulation is estimated to run below those of other Tehran Persian dailies.

There are also two papers in English, KEYHAN INTERNATIONAL in [words indistinct] KEYHAN carries an editorial.

TEHRAN TIMES, the younger English daily puts more emphasis on current political news. It was first published after the Islamic Revolution and its circulation is estimated to be around ten thousand.

The only financial daily, (BOURSE) privately owned and run depends more on advertisement than circulation.

The ISLAMIC REPUBLIC NEWS AGENCY, with 30 centers in Iran and 19 bureaus abroad, feeds the publication houses. The central [words indistinct] network is also active in this context.

CSO: 4600/365

ARMY TRIBUNAL CHIEF INTERVIEWED ON TUDEH LEADERS' TRIAL

Tehran ETTELA'AT in Persian 22 Jan 84 p 15

[Interview with Tribunal Chief of the Army Hojjat ol-Eslam Mohammadi-Reyshahri by the press and radio and television; date and place not specified]

[Text] In a press and radio and television interview, the tribunal chief of the army announced the rulings issued in regards to the military elements of the secret organization of the Tudeh Party.

Hojjat ol-Eslam Mohammadi-Reyshahri, the tribunal chief, participated in a press conference attended by foreign and domestic correspondents concerning the rulings issued by the army revolutionary court in regards to the elements of the secret organization: Thank God, the public trial of the military members of the dissolved Tudeh Party has ended. In regards to the rulings issued, I must first say that, on the whole, the persons who were put on trial were charged with four things:

1. Taking steps against the regime of the Islamic Republic and [plotting] its overthrow.
2. Espionage.
3. Collecting and concealing weapons.
4. Opposition to the law prohibiting the membership of military personnel in political parties.

The defendants who were tried can be divided into four groups in connection with these charges.

The first group consists of those against whom the four charges were proven to the court.

The second group consists of those who did not know about the long term issue of the overthrow and were also unaware of the



issue of the weapons and their being hid, but whose espionage was proven to the court.

The long term objective of this Party, as its officials have confessed, was overthrow. Rather than a coup d'etat at the present time, they intended to pursue this goal in the future, at an appropriate time. This was proven to the court.

The third group consists of those whose only crime was opposition to the law prohibiting the membership of military personnel in political parties. Neither the issue of espionage nor their knowledge of the long term goals of the Party were proven.

The fourth group consists of those who had contact with the Party, but who discontinued their contact with the Party after the prohibition of the membership of military personnel in political parties was announced by the imam.

Several mitigating circumstances were also taken into consideration. Of course, the circumstances are only those which would warrant reductions in sentences in connection with a defendant whose crime is one of these and which are taken into consideration.

The mitigating circumstances which were taken into consideration concern those individuals who reported on their own. The act of reporting will affect their sentences and they may even, under certain circumstances, be released. Second is cooperation with the officials in connection with the discovery of the organizations. This will also affect their sentences.

Third, true repentance before the court. Some of them have truly repented and, on the whole, intend to change their ways in the future. These are the factors which may influence their sentences. Considering the issues that I have mentioned and which were pointed out in regards to the defendants, these rulings were issued.

In connection with the fourth group, that is, those individuals who left the Party after the prohibition was announced, this group was released. In the opinion of the court, they are not charged with any crime.

As regards the third group, that is, those individuals whose only crime was opposition to the prohibition of the membership of military personnel in political parties and the charges of espionage or [plotting] an overthrow against whom were not proven, they were sentenced to prison terms, which I shall explain.

The second group consists of those individuals against whom the charge of espionage has been proven. Some of them have been sentenced to prison terms, which I will presently explain. But concerning the first group and several of the active individuals of the second group about whom the ruling is not yet final, those rulings will not be announced at this time, but will be announced after they are finalized.

Among those who were sentenced to prison terms are:

Six persons who were sentenced to life imprisonment.

One person sentenced to 30 years, 5 persons to 20 years, 6 persons to 15 years, 1 person to 14 years, 3 persons to 12 years, 6 persons to 8 years, 14 persons to 10 years, 9 persons to less than 5 years, 3 persons to less than 1 year, 1 person to 7 years, 1 person to 6 years and 30 persons to 5 years.

The total number of persons mentioned whose convictions have been finalized and who have been sentenced to prison is 86. Since the convictions of the remainder of the individuals have not been finalized, that is, of the remaining 14 persons, some were released and acquitted and the remainder, whose rulings have not been finalized, will not be announced at this time.

#### Separate Trial

Another group consists of military personnel who have not been tried, consisting of about 30 persons. The reason for these individuals not being tried is that their cases have not been prepared yet and another reason is that the charges against them are different from those against the individuals mentioned. These are members of the majority Feda'i guerrillas, who, in the summer of 1982, were handed over by the military branch or a section of the military branch of the majority guerrillas to the Tudeh Party before the arrest of the leaders of the Tudeh Party. For this reason, they will be tried separately.

The last part of the rulings about the military personnel of the secret organization of the treacherous Tudeh Party [as published].

#### Illegality of the Majority Organization

In regards to the common goals of the majority Feda'ian-e Khalq and the Tudeh Party, Hojjat ol-Eslam Reyshahri said: Their common course shows that their ideological and scientific roots are the same. This common course seems sufficient to declare this organization illegal. He asked those who had been deceived in connection with the majority Feda'ian-e Khalq guerrillas to report to the related centers after the organization was banned

and to free themselves from this cesspool. He added: According to the information received, the leaders of the majority [Feda'ian-e Khalq] have escaped abroad.

Hojjat ol-Eslam Reyshahri then responded to the questions of foreign and domestic correspondents.

The YUGOSLAVIAN NEWS AGENCY asked: How many persons of the non-military personnel of the military branch of the secret organization of the Tudeh Party will be tried? The tribunal chief said: Non-military personnel are not the concern of the military tribunal. Since their number is large, at the present time, I do not know precisely how many they are.

The second question: Where will they be tried? The tribunal chief: They will be tried in the Office of the Revolution Prosecutor of the Capital.

TEHRAN TIMES correspondent: Considering your experience of several years, how will the army revolution court evaluate the open confessions of the defendants?

Tribunal Chief: It is very simple. I have also made mention of this issue in an interview. Why is it that when certain individuals who have believed in a certain path, who have been active in the path they believed in and willing to give their lives for the ideology that they believed in come to the court, they confess openly to their crimes and express repentance? Of course, the person asking the question has the right to fail to perceive this problem precisely, because it has been unprecedented in the world for an accused person to come to the court, testify against himself in total freedom and even in certain cases ask, instead of the prosecutor, for the severest of punishments, as in the session on Tuesday. Both the gentlemen of the foreign press and the domestic correspondents witnessed, the accused himself asked for the severest of punishments for himself instead of the prosecutor. Those people who think materialistically cannot analyze and understand why this was so. But, if a person pays careful attention and tolerates the issue of the dealings of a human being with the truth and with realities, he will notice that the solution to the issue is very simple.

When a human being has engaged in mistakes, and he then meets some individuals like himself who have been arrested by a government and who have similar ideologies and goals--if he has committed murder unjustly, the other one has done the same; if he has committed treason, the government has done the same--and, finally, after being arrested, he comes to the conclusion that they are like himself, naturally, he cannot and will not consent to beg to such a government. He cannot say: I am a traitor.

He, too, tries to deceive the officials through various means in order to justify his crime and justify himself and to escape punishment. But there comes a time when he confronts the truth and realizes that those against whom he has been working for a long time are the opposite of what he imagined. Whatever he had been told and whatever had been rumored had served the purpose of taking advantage of him and in keeping with their own intentions. When he is arrested, he sees that all was contrary to the facts. Once he goes to jail, the obstacles of prejudice and obstinacy are removed from his eyes. As Kianuri said in one of the sessions: "We were blind." The Koran says the same about these individuals. Their prejudice, obstinacy, group support and hunger for power has blinded them to the truth. When they confront the realities, these obstacles are removed from their eyes. Consequently, there is the pressure of the conscience: Why did I commit wrong? Why did I choose that road? Why did I want to betray my nation? As a result of the pressure of conscience, he speaks about all of his problems and confesses openly in the court. Some of them even say: I want to speak in order to ease my conscience. In other words, they feel burdened. After the obstacles of prejudice, obstinacy, belief in groups and hunger for power are removed, he feels burdened and sinful. This is also one of the miracles of the revolution which can return the criminal to his original nature. It can remove the obstacles of prejudice. In any case, as a result of the pressure of conscience, he is prepared to come and confess. He explains all his problems. He even says to others who have followed him and have also been arrested that they should not follow his path and they should not make the burden of his sin heavier. This is a psychological issue. Another issue is that the officials in charge work with such calculation that before the arrest, everything about the accused is clearly known to the officials. In other words, their appointments, what they had accomplished and their activities in connection with the related charges are clear to the officials as a result of their having been under surveillance for a long time. When the members of a party, an organization or a group active against the revolution are arrested and, on the whole, its various networks are discovered by the official, they cannot refuse to confess, because his superior has told what they have done, what weapons they have in their house, the information that is available to the related official and the person below him, all has been explained. The case is in such a form that even if he refuses to confess to something, through related information available in the case, the court is able to issue a ruling. In many instances, this is the case. That is why the accused finds no other way but to confess.

Another question asked was: When will the trial of the heads and leaders of the open organization begin? Of course, since the trial of these individuals is not the responsibility of the army revolution court and they will be tried in the Office of the



Prosecutor of the Capital, the time will be determined by them and I cannot comment in this regard.

Question: Will Mr Partovi be tried with the leaders of the open Party?

Tribunal Chief: Yes, because Mr Partovi was responsible for both the secret military organization and the non-military organization, a group of whom are in the secret organization. There are more non-military individuals than military personnel. Perhaps about 200 or more are in the non-military organization and Mr Partovi was in charge of them. Mr Partovi was in charge of the whole secret organization. Hence, he must be present in court in connection with their sessions as well. He has not been tried yet and has been participating in these trials as an informant.

Another question asked by TEHRAN TIMES is whether the rulings issued in regards to the defendants and their requests to the imam for pardons and forgiveness have influenced the decisions in these rulings?

Tribunal Chief: The answer to this question is that pardoning defendants in accordance with the Constitution must follow certain rules. A proposal must be made to the imam by the honorable head of the Supreme Court in order for the imam to grant pardons. In other words, in accordance with the Constitution, the imam will never grant pardons directly. The leader has the right to pardon, but after it has been proposed by the head of the Supreme Court. Thus far, every case proposed by the head of the Supreme Court has been granted a pardon by the imam, but this issue is not one of our concerns.

JOMHURI-YE ESLAMI correspondent: If possible, can you explain the procedure for the arrest of the heads and members of the party of the spies and tell us how many have been arrested thus far and to what extent the organization of the dissolved Tudeh Party has been eliminated?

Tribunal Chief: As to what extent this organization has been eliminated, perhaps the trials have shown that the organization of the Tudeh Party in Iran has disintegrated. With the number of arrests made, apparently 80 percent have been arrested. As for the arrest procedure, it was done in two phases. First the leaders were arrested. A number of the leaders were also arrested in the second phase, which was in mid spring of 1983.

Japanese correspondent: Have these rulings been carried out concerning those convicted?



Tribunal Chief: No, that is, the jail sentences, yes, and the non-jail sentences, no. I said that the rulings issued are not final.

ETTELA'AT correspondent: When will the rulings issued be carried out?

Tribunal Chief: After they are finalized, but they have not been finalized yet.

The second question is the same as was asked before: When will the trial of Nurollah Kianuri begin? I already answered it.

Third question: Is there anyone in the military branch who has not been arrested?

Tribunal Chief: I said that those who were connected with the majority and were handed to the Tudeh Party in mid spring of 1982 have not been tried.

Spanish correspondent: Have those Tudeh members who have reported and taken refuge in Islam and who were not guilty of very serious crimes been released?

Tribunal Chief: Yes, a number of them have been released. In the trial which took place, four persons were released.

Japanese correspondent: Of the four remaining persons, how many have been released?

Tribunal Chief: For several, no final ruling has been issued. For 13 persons, the ruling is not final. Those who have been released are among those whose names were mentioned as having sentences of less than one year.

Japanese correspondent: It appears that the number of persons announced is 86. If possible, could you affirm this?

Tribunal Chief: That is correct. The number of persons announced is 86 and together with the 1 who has been released, there are 87.

The request was made: Please announce the names of those convicted about whom the finalized ruling has not been issued.

Tribunal Chief: It is not necessary for them to be announced. The names of those about whom the ruling is finalized will be announced by the IRNA. But, as for others, it will not be necessary until the ruling is finalized.

FRENCH NEWS AGENCY: Aside from the electronic equipment which you showed us and the weapons you have discovered, what other documents have you?

Tribunal Chief: Documents and equipment which they used in their work and documents which existed in connection with the arrests in this Party. There are intelligence documents which cannot be discussed. Except for the electronic equipment and weapons, there was nothing else which can be discussed.

In conclusion, I would like to thank the Guards Corps in connection with their work in the arrest of these individuals and I hope that God Almighty will reward these unknown soldiers who work extraordinarily hard and tirelessly to protect the fruits of the revolution.

The army revolution court announced the names of those convicted and their sentences as follows:

#### Life Imprisonment

1. Abolqasem Afra'i
2. Rahim Shamsi
3. Saber Zafar-Heydari
4. Seyfollah Giasvand
5. Teymur Ravandi
6. Hedayatollah Zeydehsara'i

#### Thirty Years

1. Ja'far Bahraminezhad

#### Twenty Years

1. Rahim Sadeqzadeh
2. Najmollah Mehrpur
3. Mohammad Hasan Javadi-Karizbala'i
4. Meqdad Dehqani
5. Bahman Qanbar

#### Fifteen Years

1. Mohsen Bidgoli
2. 'Ali Akbar Mirza'i
3. Abolfazl Mehdavi
4. Bizhan Heydarian
5. Bahman Nezami
6. Mohammad Hashem Sa'adatmandi

#### Fourteen Years

1. Tufan Rabi'i

#### Twelve Years

1. Qodrat Moqimi
2. Khalil Abarqu'i
3. Mohammad Reza Sa'adatmandi

#### Ten Years

1. Mohammad Mofidi
2. Mohammad Amin Moqaddasi
3. Kheyrollah Irannezhad
4. Khalil Qannadi-Azar
5. Gholam 'Ali Vahed
6. Abolqasem 'Azimi
7. Mohammad Cheraqi
8. Hadi Hoseynzadeh
9. Fereydun Moradi
10. 'Ali Kazemi
11. Naser Shahsavand
12. Mohammad Esma'il Mirza'i

13. Sirus Hakimi
14. Mohsen Hoseyninezhad
15. Davud Qoreyshi

#### Eight Years

1. Nabiollah Zadehnur
2. Jamshid Bazra'i
3. Mohammad Rahimi
4. Gholamreza Peymandust
5. Safar 'Ali Movvahedi
6. Hasan Sarrafpur

#### Seven Years

1. Firuz Shahravarian

#### Six Years

1. Hojjatollah Hamidi

#### Five Years

1. Bahman Hafezinia
2. 'Abbas Hasheminezhad
3. Asadollah Darikvandi
4. Mehdi Mostafavi
5. Abazar Gholami
6. Khalil Mina'i-Masuleh
7. Mohammad Reza Giahchi
8. Shafi' Hoseynpur
9. Naser Ilkhani
10. Naser Behjati
11. Ebrahim Lotfi

12. 'Ali Khosravanfar
13. Aqavardi Ahmadi
14. Manucheher Zolfaqari
15. Soleyman Hoseynzadeh-Nowdehi
16. Jamal Musavi
17. Mohammad Ansari
18. Ne'matollah 'Alikhani
19. Qasem Bakhshizadeh-Mahmudi
20. Mohammad Reza Yazdandust
21. 'Isa Haqshenas-Haqiqi
22. Reza Barati
23. Gholam 'Ali Davari
24. Hadi Hasrati
25. Reza Pakdel
26. Mahmud Delavar
27. Hasan Ma'qul
28. Hamid Afshar
29. Naser Gorji
30. Majid Sorkhkuh-Azari

#### Under Five Years

1. Baqer Samil, two years
2. Hoseyn Ramazani, one year
3. Hoseyn Khaza'eli, four years
4. Saber Panahandeh-Nikcheh, two years
5. 'Ali Ne'mati, four years
6. Hafez Qasedi-Kondbin, four years



7. Mohammad Reza Gehdad, two years
8. Hoseyn Almaspur, one year
9. 'Ali Akbar Ramazani, three years

Under One Year

1. Faleh Fazeli, eight months
2. Mohammad Hoseyn Bahramirad, eight months
3. Davud Khalkhali, eight months

10,000

CSO: 4640/115

KHAMENE'I COMMENTS ON WAR, REVOLUTION, KHOMEYNI'S ARRIVAL

Tehran ETTELA'AT in Persian 19 Jan 84 p 3

[Interview with President Hojjat ol-Eslam Seyyed 'Ali Khamene'i by ETTELA'AT-E HAFTEGI magazine; date and place not specified]

[Text] In an interview with ETTELA'AT-E HAFTEGI magazine, Hojjat ol-Eslam Seyyed 'Ali Khamene'i, the president of our country, responded to the nine questions asked by that magazine in connection with the Fajr decade, the imposed war, the effects of the revolution, propaganda weaknesses and the imam's message and gave important and interesting directives, which are published in ETTELA'AT HAFTEGI this week.

Because of the importance of the issues raised and the important statements of the president on these issues, the complete text of the interview of ETTELA'AT-E HAFTEGI with Hojjat ol-Eslam Khamene'i is published here for the dear readers of ETTELA'AT.

On the occasion of the Fajr decade, we visited our brother, Seyyed 'Ali Khamene'i, the president, in his office in order to ask our questions in connection with such topics as the effects of the revolution, propaganda weaknesses, and the imam's message and to hear his directives. In a gathering also attended by friends of the press of other magazines, we asked our questions. He responded to nine questions by ETTELA'AT-E HAFTEGI. The joyful spirit of the president in this visit and interview and his kind patience were truly remarkable. Of course, we had prepared many more questions for this interview, but, considering the difficulties and engagements of the president and as well as the constraints of time and the presence of representatives of the magazines of other revolutionary organizations, more time could not be availed us.

Although, despite all this, we were with him for only an hour, and he responded to our questions patiently, these questions and answers, especially at the threshold of the fifth anniversary of the victory of the Islamic revolution, contain very positive, useful and significant points.

God willing, another opportunity will arise in which to speak with him on economic issues as well as political, cultural and athletic issues.

Let us look at the complete text of the president's statements and his responses to our questions:

Our first question to the president concerned the revolution. Given the situation of our nearing the anniversary of the beginning of the sixth year since February 1979, we asked the president:

In your opinion, what effect has the Islamic revolution had in the region and in the world?

The President: The Islamic revolution has had some very astonishing effects. However, if we want to classify these effects, perhaps we can say that the most important of them is giving the boldness and courage for action to the nations of the region and, especially for the Muslim nations, bringing the nations out of a state of stagnation and despair and a sense of weakness before the great powers.

As you see, since our revolution, a new joy in the people's movement has been created throughout the world, which must certainly be considered as related to this revolution. One essential issue is that this revolution was able to prove to the nations the experience of living independently, which is a very valuable thing.

The nations had always observed that revolutions lean to one side or another. But in our revolution, the more we have progressed from its beginning, the more our independence has increased. At one time, there were some movements towards the left and the right. But now, with the passage of five years since the beginning of the revolution, we are, for instance, more independent than ever before. This is quite apparent in the propaganda against us of the two great global factions. In other words, today, both factions of the East and the West attack us with the same tone of voice and in a similar manner. During the first, second, even the third and fourth years of the revolution, these attacks were not so severe. This shows that we live independently and we have been able to prove this experience to the world.

[Question] Mr President, in your opinion, what factors can preserve the original course of our revolution?

The President: We believe that if two things are preserved in this revolution, this revolution will maintain its direction. First is its being Islamic and, second, its being of the people. These two are not separate from one another. If it is Islamic, it will certainly be of the people. But, being of the people is itself a separate principle and a separate part. These two pivots, that is, Islam and the nation, secure the revolution and are able to preserve the revolution along its own course.

[Question] Mr President, in regards to bringing the message of the revolution, ultimately propaganda, we have enacted very weak measures. In your opinion, what measures can bring us to the desired objectives in this area?

The President: I may not agree with you in your assessment of very weak. We might say weak, but not very weak. The volume of propaganda has been good. The motivations for the propaganda have also been sincere. The spread of propaganda throughout the country and the world has been reasonable and appropriate. The only thing that we have lacked is precise planning in the area of propaganda. This has been our problem. The propaganda organization has not been centralized. When an organization in charge of a task is not centralized, planning becomes very difficult. We see that the revolutionary institutions engage in propaganda; propaganda organizations engage in propaganda; political organizations engage in propaganda; and other independent people also engage in propaganda and all do it with sincere motivations. But, planning is somewhat weak. In my opinion, if, as has been stated in the law, propaganda becomes centralized and we have good planning in the area of propaganda, this weakness which has been referred to will be eliminated.

[Question] The thirst of the oppressed people of the world to understand the revolution is great. In Lebanon, in Egypt, in Palestine and in other countries, the effects of this acceptance are clearly observed. In this connection, what programs do you have to strengthen this view? And what steps have you taken or are you taking in this regard to meet the needs of the oppressed people of the world and to help them?

The President: In response to this question, I can only say that 1 action is more valuable than 200 words.

If we are able to act well internally and strengthen the foundations of the Islamic Republic here, the best program to encourage these nations and large masses to which you refer will have been carried out. Of course, we have tried to gain the support of the nations by supporting them and we support them in

gaining their independence and freedom. And the nations have been aware of this . We have tried to raise the issue of Islam as being an essential slogan which determines the direction of the nations and this slogan has made its mark. We have had considerable success, especially among the Muslim nations. But, I repeat that we must prove the value of being Muslims, revolutionary, independent, and neither for the East nor for the West internally. This is the best plan.

[Question] In your opinion, what role will the recent message of the imam of the nation, which will play a major role in strengthening the executive branch, and also the statements and reminders of Grand Ayatollah Montazeri have in the course of the government and the advancement of the revolution?

The President: A revitalizing role which eliminates the weariness of the executives. When, despite all the difficulties, the executives of the country, who carry the burden of implementation, see how their beloved imam is concerned about them and supports them, and also, when the suggestions of Grand Ayatollah Montazeri, which are fatherly and sincere, are heard, naturally, they will be encouraged and weariness will leave their bodies.

[Question] It would be appropriate to have a gathering of the leaders of the revolutionaries of the world during the Fajr decade in order to exchange views concerning global issues and the problems of the oppressed people of the world. What is your opinion in this regard?

The President: We believe that if the leaders of those countries which think in terms of opposition to oppression are able to gather, it would be a great help to the movement against oppression in the region.

I did not have any particular proposal in regards to the Fajr decade. However, on the whole, we made this proposal and our brothers in the Ministry of Foreign Affairs may have worked on this issue to some extent. In the gathering of our brothers and the foreign political representatives abroad, we spoke somewhat about this issue. God willing, more attention will be paid to this point.

[Question] What issue will receive more attention in the sixth year of the government of the Islamic Republic?

The President: The issue which is essentially of concern to the Islamic Republic in the long run is that of providing a proper standard of living for the Muslim brothers and sisters, that is, the Iranian Muslim brothers and sisters and other Iranians throughout the country. If we are to explain this issue in



practical terms, we must continue to consider the support for the oppressed, the downtrodden and the weak strata of the society, which has always been the slogan of the Islamic Republic, our slogan for the coming year. Of course, as you know, as long as the war, which is the most urgent and serious of our present concerns, fails to reach a satisfactory and logical resolution, achieving our other goals seems somewhat difficult.

[Question] What is the difference between 11 February of this year and 11 February of 1979? Please give us a brief account of the period between 11 February 1979 and 11 February 1984.

The President: One might not be able to explain the differences precisely and explaining them might not be very useful. But, what I would like to say is that 11 February 1984 is a continuation of 11 February 1979. Victory is a continuous movement. It is not the case that one day the revolution becomes victorious and then everything is finished. That was the first and the greatest step towards victory. But, there are other steps towards victory which continue through 11 February 1984 and perhaps into Februaries long afterwards. We must continuously move towards victory. This movement must continue until, God willing, we are able to establish that desired Islamic regime in a desired environment.

[Question] In the cultural and artistic dimension, some truly brilliant work has been accomplished. What should be done in the area of strengthening the culture and art of the revolution, especially in strengthening film making, cinema, theater and television and what programs do you have in this regard?

The President: In the area of art, I cannot speak as someone to suggest a program, because I am not an artist or a person with a correct understanding of art. I am a lover of art. I believe that artistic work is one of the most necessary of tasks, because it is the most eloquent and effective of languages. If we are able to carry out a comprehensive and continuous program in the area of nurturing artistic talents and artistic skills, undoubtedly, this would be a very valuable effort.

Of course, efforts are being made; but, these efforts must be improved qualitatively.

I believe that there are many among our people who have artistic talent. We must search them out. We must train them. In certain cases, we see that our artists display very much talent. The young and revolutionary, especially, despite having no experience, sometimes show that they are talented and prepared. With good planning in this regard, taking this seriously, God willing, we will achieve some success.

[Question] Mr President, as our last question, please tell us your unforgettable memories of 11 February and also the days of the revolution in 1979 prior to the victory.

The President: Well, this question requires a couple of hours of conversation. To tell you the truth, memories . . . one is helpless in deciding what to say about the memories of 11 February. In those days, we were in a stunned state, while we were naturally involved in all the activities, since, as you know, I was a member of the Revolution Council and almost always present there. But there was a sense of disbelief and being stunned about everything. Let me tell you something that might surprise you. Until some time after 11 February, I frequently wondered whether we were asleep or awake. I tried to wake up, thinking that if I were asleep, this golden dream would not continue after I woke up. The circumstances were that astonishing for us.

At that hour, when the radio for the first time announced, "the voice of the Islamic revolution," I was in a car going from a factory to the imam's headquarters. It was a factory in which disruptive and opportunist elements had gathered and made some noise. It was during the height of the revolution, probably when Bakhtiar was still there, that is, around 6 or 7 February. And there were extremely difficult problems and nothing had been accomplished yet. These elements were engaging in extortion in that factory. We had gone there to get things in order. On our return in the car, when the radio said, "the voice of the Islamic revolution," I stopped the car, got out and prostrated on the ground.

It was that unimaginable and unbelievable for us. At every moment, there was a problem. If I were to explain my memories of, for instance, twenty days during the revolution, undoubtedly, I would not be able to explain everything that passed through our minds and happened around us during those days. In any case, you may ask and I will answer.

[Question] What do you remember about the day the imam arrived?

The President: The day of the imam's arrival, we were going from the University (you know, we had to sit in there) to the airport to the imam. In the car (I told this once to the imam), everyone was happy and smiling. I was weeping in fear of the possible danger to the imam and did not know what might happen to him, because there had been threats. Then we went to the airport. The imam arrived with such ceremony. As soon as the imam's calmness became apparent, our worries and anxieties totally disappeared. With his own calmness, the imam calmed me and many others who had been worried. After many years, I was meeting the imam there, and suddenly, the fatigue of those years left me. I

felt that all these wishes had been manifested in the being of the imam, who was standing in total dignity, with the actual attainment victoriously there before us. When we entered the city, with all the details that you know and witnessed and, thank God, all those stories are alive in the minds of the people, in the afternoon, the imam went to the Behesht-e Zahra Cemetery to an unknown spot. Our brothers, specifically Mr Nateq-Nuri, whisked the imam away and took him to a secure place in order for him to rest from the people who wanted to express their emotions, since he had not rested for 16 nights prior to that day at sunset, always under the pressure of work and the presence of others. We were downstairs in Refah School doing our work. Before the arrival of the imam, with some of our brothers we had thought about and discussed the plan for the residence of the imam and other issues and some preparations were also made. In those days, we had a publication in which some of the news was printed right there in the Refah School. Several issues were published. (Of course, during the sit in, we started another publication of which several issues were published.) I returned to Refah and we were waiting to see what would happen from moment to moment. We realized that the imam had gone somewhere to rest. It was late at night and I was arranging the news of that day to be printed and distributed in the Refah publication. It was about 10 o'clock at night. Suddenly, I realized that at the door of Refah from the alley there was some commotion. Several people were making noise there and it became obvious that something had happened. I went and looked out of the window. I saw that the imam had entered alone and no one was with him. These Guards Corps brothers who had suddenly seen the imam before them did not know what to do and had surrounded him. The imam, after having rested, was speaking to them pleasantly and they were kissing his hand. (There were about 15 people.) They crossed the yard and reached the steps to the first floor. These steps were next to the room I was in. I came forward and entered the hall to see the imam close by. The imam entered the hall where some of the people were. They gathered around the imam again, kissing his hand. I tried to get close and kiss his hand, but I realized that I would be troubling him as one more person. Despite my great desire to go to him, I stood aside. The imam passed two meters away from me. Since it was crowded, I did not go close. I had exactly the same feeling in the airport. Despite of my secret desire to go to him, I stopped myself from going forward in order not to bother him and stopped some others so that they would not go to him and tire him.

The imam came off the airplane and moved with the people towards a place which had been prepared for him. Only once did he stop and sit down along with others. One of the brothers, embarrassed, welcomed him in broken words and a song was sung. The imam then went to the place he was supposed to go. . . In any case, there are memories of every moment. What can I say.

COMMERCE OFFICIAL REPORTS IMPORT, EXPORT FIGURES

GF201636 Tehran IRNA in English 1556 GMT 20 Feb 84

[Text] Tehran, 20 Feb, IRNA--The Islamic Republic of Iran receives 20 percent of its imported goods from Islamic and Third World countries. In pre-revolution years this figures averaged less than seven percent.

Speaking to IRNA, the deputy minister of commerce in charge of purchasing affairs, 'Abdol Hoseyn (Vahaji), said that Iran's total import figure for 1982-83 was 18 billion dollars.

Referring to Iran-Turkey trade relations he noted that Iranian imports from Turkey totalled 55 million dollars in 1975-76.

But he said, the figure rose in 1980-81 to 110 million dollars, in 1981-82 to 292 million dollars and in 1982-83 to 1.35 billion dollars. During the first six months of the current year 658 million dollars worth of goods have been imported from Turkey, he added.

In relation to Iranian exports to Turkey, (Vahaji) stated in the year 1975-76 non oil exports totalled 300,000 dollars. This figure increased to one million dollars in 1981-82.

For 1982-83 Turkish imports from Iran increased to two million dollars and during the first six months of the current Iranian year (beginning March 21, 1983) the figure stands at 1.8 million dollars.

In relation to Pakistan, (Vahaji) said that in 1975-76 Iran imported 34 million dollars worth of goods. This figure decreased to 27 million dollars in 1979-80.

In 1980-81 the figure increased to 68 million dollars, for 1981-82 the total reached 84 million dollars, and rose to 234 million dollars last year. Iranian imports from Pakistan in the first six months of the current Iranian year stood at 153 million dollars.



He explained that Iran's non-oil exports to Pakistan in 1975-76 amounted to 1.5 million dollars. This figure decreased to 975,000 dollars in 1981-82. Iran exported 1.8 million dollars worth of non-oil products to Pakistan in 1981-82 and for the first six months of the current Iranian year the figure equals 200,000 dollars.

Vahaji said that the reason for decreasing the export of non-oil goods to Turkey and Pakistan was the high price of Iran's finished goods. He added that the import policy of the Islamic Republic favored the supply of goods from Islamic and Third World countries. He cited as problems the low quality and high price of finished goods from those countries. (Vahaji) reiterated that Iran's overall import strategy was based on the concept of neither East nor West and the removal of bottlenecks with its trading partners.

The Commerce Ministry undersecretary broke down the percentage of Iran's non-oil imports in the current Iranian year as follows: 70 percent from Western countries, 10 percent from Eastern Bloc countries and 20 percent from Islamic and Third World countries. Concerning Iran's volume of trade with the Islamic world, he said that the figure was boosted remarkably after the culmination of the Islamic Revolution.

In the decade from 1968-78 Iranian imports totalled 85 percent from Western countries, 7 percent from Eastern countries and 8 percent from the Islamic and the Third World.

He added that the total value of Iran's non-oil imports for the six year period of 1977-83 were 14.5 billion dollars, 10 billion dollars, 10 billion dollars, 11 billion dollars, 13.5 billion dollars, and 18 billion dollars respectively.

CSO: 4600/365



# IRNA ROUNDS UP IRANIAN OFFENSIVES SINCE 1981

LD160957 Tehran IRNA in English 0930 GMT 16 Feb 84

["Background on Iranian Offensives"--IRNA headline]

[Text] Tehran, 16 Feb, IRNA--Today's operation by the Islamic forces is the [words indistinct] major offensive since September 27, 1981, when the Islamic forces broke the siege around the southern port city of Abadan in operation Thamin ol-A'imma. The following is a general background on Iranian offensives against the Iraqi aggressors:

1--Thamin ol-A'imma, September 27, 1981, in the Abadan region, 1,000 enemy casualties, 1,700 taken captive, 250 sq km liberated.

2--Tariq al-Qods, November 29, 1981, Bostan region in South, 2,500 enemy casualties, 534 taken captive, 250 sq km liberated.

3--Fath ol-Mobin, March 22, 1982, west of Dezful and Shush in south, 2,500 enemy casualties, 15,500 taken captive, 2,400 sq km liberated.

4--Bayt al-Moqaddas, May 24, 1982, Khuzestan Province, 16,000 Iraqi casualties, 17,500 captives, 5,400 sq km liberated.

5--Ramadhan, July 14, 1982, east of Basra in southern Iraq, 7,000 Iraqi troops killed or wounded, 1,400 taken captive, 80 sq km of Iraq liberated.

6--Muslim ibn 'Aqil, October 1, 1982, Sumar border heights overlooking Iraqi town of Mandali in the middle sector of the warfront, 454 enemy troops killed or wounded, 203 taken captive, 150 sq km liberated.

7--Moharram, November 1, 1982, west of Dezful in south, 6,200 enemy casualties, 3,500 taken captive, 550 sq km of Iranian and 300 sq km of Iraqi territories were liberated.

8--[passage indistinct]

9--Val-Fajr-1, April 10, 1983, in the Piranshahr-Haj Omran region of Iran and Iraq in the northern sector of the battlefront, 3,600 Iraqi troops killed or wounded, dozens taken captive, 200 sq km of Iranian and 200 sq km of Iraqi territories freed.

10--Val-Fajr-2, July 22, 1983, in the Prianshahr-Haj Omran region of Iran and Iraq in the northern sector of the battlefront, 3,600 Iraqi troops killed or wounded, dozens taken captive, 200 sq km of Iranian and 200 sq km of Iraqi territories freed.

11--Val-Fajr-3, July 30, 1983, border heights west of Mahran in Ilam Province, 10,500 enemy casualties, 510 taken captive, 50 sq km of Iranian and 50 sq km of Iraqi territories liberated.

12--Val-Fajr-4, October 20, 1983, Baneh and Marivan regions of Iran and the Panjwin region of Iraq, 9,500 Iraqi casualties, 960 captives and 700 sq km of Iraq liberated.

CSO: 4600/365

IRNA COMMENTS ON SAUDI MOTIVES IN OIL PRODUCTION

GF141840 Tehran IRNA in English 1724 GMT 14 Feb 84

[Text] Tehran, 14 Feb, IRNA--The Saudi Arabian minister of industry and power, has recently said that Saudi production of oil and natural gas exceeded needs of the country's industries.

OPECNA, the news agency of the Organisation of Petroleum Exporting Countries (OPEC) further quoted the Saudi minister as stating that the temporary decline in Saudi oil production, down to six million barrels per day from the previous 11 million barrels, did not hinder the country's industries.

He further added that there was no need for concern over the excess supply of the petrochemical items. Therefore, expansion of petrochemical industries would go ahead with no problems for the war material and fuel.

One of the main reasons for the glut in the international oil market for the past two years has been Saudi Arabia's high level of production.

Consequently OPEC members have tried to convince the Saudi officials to lower production of crude oil and make it conform to the quota set up by the organisation.

However, the Saudi monarchy unable to decide the level of oil production, inevitably has followed decisions made in imperialist industrial countries [words indistinct] Saudi officials have tried to convince OPEC through resorting to lies and deceits that it had to produce six million barrels of crude oil per day. The OPEC quota for Saudi Arabia is five million barrels a day.

One of the excuses repeated by the Saudi oil minister in the recent OPEC meetings, has been that because of dependency of Saudi industries and power plants on the natural gas pumped with oil, there was no way of reducing oil production.

However, each time the Iranian minister of oil through figures and statistics has proved falsity of such claims which aimed at keeping the oil production at a high level. The Iranian oil minister has pointed out that the industries

in Iran which have a higher level of production compared to those of the Saudis, operate with about one-third of the Saudi oil output.

However, now the Saudi minister of industry and power himself has confessed that his country's oil and gas production was more than the need of that country's industries. In the face of such a statement, could one still have the slightest doubt about the motive behind the Saudi Arabia's high level of production which above other problems, has weakened the foundation of OPEC?

The question which arises is whether Saudi Arabia is in need of revenues of such high level of production or countries such as Nigeria, Indonesia and Venezuela which are badly in need of oil money and are unable to repay their debts to the exploiting banks.

However, due to Saudi Arabia's high level of production, these needy countries have been forced to limit their oil production.

Is not then funding the war expenditure of the Iraqi ruler, the reason for high level of oil production in Saudi Arabia?

CSO: 4600/365

CLANDESTINE RADIO REPORTS ON LABOR UNREST IN COUNTRY

GF171754 (Clandestine) Radio Iran in Persian 1330 GMT 17 Feb 84

[Text] A report from nationalist elements in Iran said that the Iran national factory continues without a manager. The same report added that following the protests and strikes by the workers of the Iran National factory against working additional hours without pay, the latest government manager of the Iran national factory has resigned and this big company is now operating without a manager.

On the basis of this report, efforts by the Khomeyni regime to find a new manager for this factory have met with failure. It is said that so far none of the government's functionaries have agreed to take up the job for fear of clashing with the angry workers of Iran national. This report added that the Iran national factory at present continues to operate even though it is suffering from heavy financial losses owing to bad Islamic management.

Another report said that recently in the (MINU) factory, the blue and white collar workers became so fed up with the constant interference of the officials of the regime, they locked the managing director and his assistants in their office. The workers said until their demands were met that they would continue to hold them. An hour after the incident began guards and responsible officials of the Labor Ministry of the Khomeyni regime went to the factory. They made various promises to the workers of the (MINU) factory. The workers after receiving these promises set the managing director and his assistants free.

At present, the workers of these factories continue to make demands and have threatened that if their demands were not met they will resort to other measures.

CSO: 4640/122



NVOI URGES 'JUST, HONORABLE' END TO GULF WAR

TA201052 (Clandestine) National Voice of Iran in Persian 1730 GMT 19 Feb 84

[Unattributed commentary: "The Iranian People Demand the Conclusion of a Just and Honorable Agreement"]

[Excerpts] Dear compatriots: Recently the futile and harmful war between Iran and Iraq entered a new and dangerous phase--namely, shelling by both sides of each other's residential areas. On the one hand, Iraq has made our homeland's residential and industrial areas the target of its missiles, and is causing new devastation and is slaughtering our homeland's children. On the other hand, by bombarding Iraq's residential areas, behind an Islamic mask at that, the Islamic regime too is inflicting enormous material and human losses on the Iraqi nation.

The Islamic regime's leaders--without paying heed to the great perils stemming from the new phase of the imposed war--have objected to sitting at the negotiating table and ending the futile war, and are again insisting on punishing Iraq's leaders, exporting the so-called Islamic Revolution, and overthrowing the regime of that country. They are repeating the slogan "War, War Until Victory" as their only slogan.

The consequence of this very dangerous stance by rulers of the Islamic Republic of Iran, particularly the threat of closing the Hormuz Strait, in addition to blocking the way of ending this destructive war, has also given world-devouring America and its Western allies a free hand to escalate their military presence in the region. World-devouring America--following the imposition of a futile war of attrition on the two nations of Iran and Iraq--by imposing an unwise and incorrect stance through agents in the Islamic Government on the leaders and senior figures, and by encouraging them to issue hollow and empty threats, has succeeded in escalating its military presence in the region. U.S. imperialism, by exploiting the threats of the Islamic Republic of Iran's rulers to close the Hormuz Strait, has dispatched its naval strike force, including the nuclear aircraft carrier Enterprise along with 2,000 marines, to that region.

Despite this, the Islamic regime's leaders and senior figures are continuing the destructive imposed war. They are not paying heed to its dangerous and

independence-destroying consequences, and are not ready to conclude an agreement that would be just and honorable for both the Iranian and Iraqi nations. It is worth noting that these gentlemen are disguising all their deeds--which are contrary to the nation's interests and which benefit world-devouring America--under the mask of exporting their Islamic Revolution to Iraq, and imposing a regime of terror and repression on the Iraqi people.

It is evident that the atonement for these treacherous deeds by rulers of the Islamic regime must still be made by the toiling Iranian nation and by Iranian youths and children. Everyone acknowledges that so far this war has cost the bloodshed of more than half a million of our compatriots, and the same number or more of wounded people, and has rendered over 3 million Iranian people homeless, living like refugees. It is evident that if this war of attrition imposed by world-devouring America is not ended as soon as possible, millions of other Iranian and Iraqi families will sit in mourning, and new hard blows will be dealt to the economies of both countries.

Our homeland's struggling people rightly consider the slogan "War, War Until Victory" a condemnable slogan. By defending the lives of their dear ones and by struggling to achieve the slogan urging an end to the war with just and honorable conditions, the people can deter the Islamic Government's leaders from the dangerous course of prolonging this war of attrition.

CSO: 4640/122

COMMERCE MINISTER ON TRADE WITH SYRIA

LD201854 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1630 GMT 20 Feb 84

[Excerpts] Ja'fari, our minister of commerce, who had gone to the Arab Republic of Syria to take part in the sessions of the Islamic Council, ended his visit to that country and returned to Tehran. Our correspondent has interviewed Mr Ja'fari about the outcome of his visit, as follows:

[Begin recording] [Ja'fari] The volume of commercial exchanges [between Iran and Syria] which before the revolution was estimated at \$130,000, after the revolution in the years starting on 21 March 1981 and 1982 exceeded \$40 million, thank God. During this visit to Syria we, as well as the fraternal country of Syria, expressed the wish to increase the volume of these exchanges to \$200 million. On the basis of commercial orders existing between the two countries, God willing, this figure will exceed \$100 million by the first half of the year ending on 20 March 1984.

[Reporter] In view of the discussions you have had with the officials of the fraternal country of Syria and on the basis of the agreement you have signed, how will these relations expand in the future?

[Ja'fari] Among the items which have been and will be exchanged with the friendly and fraternal country of Syria, the items imported from Syria will be vegetables, chemical fertilizers, and electrical equipment such as [words indistinct] and such like; and the goods which we will export will be [word indistinct] and textiles. Among the items which we will export to that country will be vehicles such as trucks, buses, minibuses and the like and other major traditional export items such as carpets and so on. We hope to expand the goods exchange volume in the coming year [starting on 21 March 1984] to between 100 and 200 million dollars, God willing. [End recording]

CSO: 4640/122

PETROLEUM MINISTER INTERVIEWED ON SARAKHS GAS PROJECT

LD161537 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1030 GMT 16 Feb 84

[Interview by unnamed correspondent with Seyyed Mohammad Gharazi, minister of petroleum, date and place not specified--recorded]

[Excerpts] [Correspondent] During the past few days we saw the inauguration of the Khangiran gas refinery, within the framework of the big project for supplying gas from the Sarakhs wells to consumers in Neka and other parts of the country. I now ask Petroleum Minister Gharazi to explain the general aspects of the project.

[Gharazi] In the name of God, the compassionate, the merciful. Greetings to the Imam of the ummah and the martyr-nurturing ummah of Iran. The project consists of six parts: resource, excavation, collection, refinery, sulfur extraction, pipeline and gas supply. The quantity of gas estimated in the source, which is the 24 wells drilled so far, is about 17 times 10 to the power of 12 cubic feet, which is 3-4 percent of the country's total gas resource. After the excavation project, comes the collection from the 24 wells. Because the gas contains sulfur, it goes to the refinery. At present, the refinery has three refining lines, each of which refines 7 million cubic meters a day, that is, 21 million cubic meters a day. Two more production lines will be added in the future. Twenty-one million cubic meters of refined gas a day is equivalent to 150,000 barrels of oil a day. The refinery has another section for sulfur collection, consisting of two production lines, which each deliver 650 tons of sulfur a day. Therefore, the refinery delivers 1,300 tons of sulfur a day. A 30-inch pipeline, 800 kilometers long, has been laid between Sarakhs and Neka, through various towns.

Total cost of the six projects is \$600 million, that is, 5 billion toman or 50 billion rials. About \$100 million was spent on the wells. About \$250 million was spent on [short break in transmission] the remaining \$250 million were spent on [short break in transmission] To make a comparison, if we wanted to refine 150,000 barrels of crude oil a day, it would cost about \$2 billion a year. Therefore, at one-quarter of the cost, the refinery and the related installations could be amortised in less than 6 months. [sentence as heard] But, reserves stand at 15 million cubic meters a day for 80 years.

[Correspondent] How far has the pipeline project progressed so far, how much is left, and how many years do you think it will take to reach all the goals in the plan?

[Gharazi] The main pipeline, the 800-kilometers 30-inch pipeline, has reached Neka. The big Neka power station, which is a great asset to the country, instead of using 5 million liters of furnace oil a day--which we would have to transport by train or truck from Tehran, Esfahan or Tabriz--thank God, the gas reaches there by pipeline now. And the biggest consumer, that is the Neka power station, can use gas now.

CSO: 4640/122



TEHRAN RADIO COMMENTS ON SHELLING DUEL

GF130748 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 0450 GMT 13 Feb 84

[Unattributed commentary]

[Excerpts] In his exalted name. On the morning of the state of the sixth glorious anniversary of the victory of the Islamic revolution of Iran and the laughable defeat of U.S. imperialism, the criminal Iraqi regime made the hero-nurturing and resistant city of Dezful the target of three of its missiles and martyred a number of our compatriots and wounded many others. Several hours later two more missiles were directed on Dezful, one of which hit a hospital and the other residential areas.

The latest statistics concerning this barbaric attack indicates that 8 people were martyred while over 100 were wounded. The damages caused by the criminal actions of Saddamists totaled 100 destroyed houses, 400 damaged houses, and 55 damaged shops.

Following the crime of the Saddamists and 24 hours after the latest aggression by the Iraqi regime, the Islamic combatants, against their deep desires and in answer to this criminal act of the regime ruling Iraq, brought the cities of Basra, Khanaqin, and Mandali under their artillery fire. The Islamic combatants, in order to warn the Muslim Iraqi nation, set off flare shells over Basra and Mandali the night before the shelling of Basra, Khanaqin, and Mandali.

At the time of the holding of the Jerusalem liberation maneuvers and immediately after the missile Attack on Dezful, the combatant zealous forces of the first Jerusalem army of the Islamic Revolution Guards Corps that left Hamadan for the fronts of the battle of right against wrong, started a series of operations in Iraq's (Darbandikhan) area, south of Marivan and having inflicted heavy casualties on the enemy, pushed 15 km over the mountainous and difficult terrain to cross the (Darbandikhan) district. In their brave attack, they captured a number of important heights and established themselves 10 km from the (Darbandikhan) dam and the Suleymaniyen-Baghdad road.

Considering the clear facts, both the East and West are trying together to rescue Saddam and end the war as quickly as possible without acquiescing to the just demands of the Islamic Republic of Iran. International oppression, maintaining silence over the criminal acts of the Iraqi regime, has opened the flood of its military and economic aid to Iraq and is desperately trying to put pressure on the Islamic Republic of Iran to accept an imposed peace by issuing resolutions concerning a cease-fire and an end to the Iranian-Iraqi war on the international scene. However, the steadfastness and resistance of the Muslim Iranian nation and the lack of any force on the side of Saddam's crimes and the efforts of international oppression side by side with the deep determination of the warriors of Islam to end the imposed war has caused Saddam to clearly announce his intention to carry out missile attacks and bombing raids against the cities of our country, using the excuse of bombing raids against Iraqi civilian areas. Another ploy by Saddam was to show the peace-loving nature of Iraqi regime and its humanity by releasing 190 Iranian prisoners, the majority of whom were civilians and had been prisoners of the murderers of Baghdad since the start of the unsuccessful war. However, both Saddam and his criminal masters know very well that the claims concerning the Iranian shelling of the civilian areas of Iraq were totally groundless and solely an effort to legitimize the criminal actions of the regime ruling Iraq.

The threat to bomb the Iranian civilian areas and the Iraqi aircraft's violation of our airspace have all been useless efforts by Saddam and his masters to attempt to force the Islamic Republic of Iran to accept their demands and futile attempts to stop the operations of the warriors of Islam. However, the decisive and correct reply of the Islamic Republic of Iran to shell Iraqi cities should their latest threat be carried out, did not stop the Saddamists from committing their crimes. The criminals of Baghdad having carried out their threat, have committed another crime against the two Muslim nations of Iran and Iraq.

It is interesting to note that international organizations, having maintained their shameful silence, have left Saddam's hands free to continue his crimes and aggression. This time, as in the past, the Iraqi regime committed another crime by using Soviet-made missiles. At the same time, U.S. imperialism having realized the ever more apparent weakness and incapability of the Iraqi regime to oppose the warriors of Islam, has not only expanded its support for the Iraqi regime--contrary to all its former baseless claims on its neutrality about the Iran-Iraq war--in the form of trips by Rumsfeld and Murphy to Baghdad, but has also clearly announced that the defeat of the Iraqi regime will threaten U.S. interests in the area.

Maybe the so-called anti-imperialist interests of the Soviet Union makes it necessary that it should save the so-called anti-imperialist regime of Baghdad, like those regimes in Egypt, Jordan and other reactionaries, in order that U.S. imperialist interests are saved and the just demands of the Islamic Republic of Iran are left unrealized! However, the continuation of the plots of international oppression and the continuation of the criminal actions of the Iraqi regime are again opposed by resistance and steadfastness of the Muslim Iranian nation as in the past. This time in addition to retaliation, the warriors of Islam are determined to end the war to the advantage of the oppressed of the region and against the arch satan, using their might which stems from the faith in the Lord and dear Islam, and by liberating the Muslim Iraqi nation to further strengthen the front for the battle against the Zionists.

NEWSPAPER DENOUNCES AMERICAN 'MILITARY ADVENTURES'

GF130825 Tehran JOMHURI-YE ESLAMI in Persian 22 Jan 84 p 11

[Editorial: "Arch-Satan and Military Adventures"]

[Excerpts] In spite of the defeats which the American aggressive forces have suffered throughout the world, including in the Middle East and particularly in Lebanon, the Pentagon's greed for the expansion of American military bases and for equipping them with modern military hardware and with extra-modern military arms has reached an insatiable stage. THE WASHINGTON POST has recently published a secret report (of course, with permission from the Pentagon authorities!) which was referred to in yesterday's issue of our paper. According to this report, the arch-Satan intends to spend billions of dollars for strengthening, equipping, and renovating its military bases in various countries and signing agreements for the authority to use them and for setting up new bases.

The question now is as to why does the United States carry out the programs of expansion of its military bases on land and water, one after the other, in such haste? The answer to this question can be found in the military budget which the Reagan regime has prepared for projects outside America. In the American military appropriations prepared for the years 1982 to 1987, \$222 billion had been earmarked for armament and for bases. More funds have been added to this amount in the current year. All this investment is merely to prove that the United States is a superpower and that this money is for its military adventures. Moreover, this is at a time when the countries under its military, economic, and political control have risen against the arch-Satan and have expressed their hatred in their political meetings, demonstrations, and strikes. According to the statistics published by the Americans themselves, 15 percent of the American nation had a subsistence "below pauperism." When it is said that 34.4 million Americans have been declared "paupers" by American administration, it proves that the number of American paupers in the United States, as compared with the previous year, has increased by 2.6 million people. Constant reduction in social aid and adding the financial savings to the military sector, has widened the gap between the rich and the poor in the United States.

Resort to force may perhaps be the last weapon in its arsenal to prove its might, but the fact is that American ruling authorities have made wrong calculations because world nations are now awake and they can no longer be tricked by the threats and adventures of the forces of the oppressors, and they will never kneel before the hollow show of force of the oppressors. The advanced military technology which is the most important weapon of superpowers has lost its effect on the nations which have risen against them. Clenched fists are better than the sophisticated arms and the motiveless and addicted American soldiers. The current era, especially the current decade, is an era of victory of blood over sword and this reality has been experienced several times by the bullying Americans. Political plots of the arch-Satan, which mostly depend on its puppet regimes and political alliances, have become shaky. Similarly, its military technology is not so effective either. Our world has turned into swamps for the oppressive forces, the more they bring pressure on us, the more they submerge into the swamps. Every political and military move of the oppressors ends in a shameless cul de sac. Escape from this fix needs initiatives which the superpowers, by falling into the chambers of their big-thinking, have fallen short of. Martyrdom seeking by our self-sacrificing combatants has washed away all the political and military doctrines of the satans of the age. Their military bases which are being equipped and strengthened with an insatiable appetite today will turn into bases of attack against these satans themselves tomorrow because these bases have been constructed on lands which are surrounded by millions of enemies of the oppressors.

These people will bring the same calamity on the head of United States which the Islamic Revolution in Iran brought on the arch-Satan. The arch-Satan will experience the same thing in other countries of the world because the medieval foreign policies of the United States are far removed from the exact realities of the present day society. The realities of these days are evaluated on the axis of the awakening of the nations and uprising of the oppressed of the world. This political wisdom cannot be found in the organizations of the oppressor politicians. They do not understand realities now, but a day will come when nations will make their enemies understand this, relying on their determination. Determination of nations is a good means to force an understanding of realities.

CSO: 4640/122



PRIME MINISTER ADDRESSES FRIDAY PRAYERS IN QOM

LD101825 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1630 GMT 10 Feb 84

[Text] Prime Minister Mr Hoseyn Musavi, took part in Friday prayers in Qom today, and addressed the congregation before the sermons were given. Referring to the 10 Days of Dawn ceremonies, the prime minister analyzed the gains and victories of the Islamic Revolution and its effects on deprived people of the world. Referring to the fact that the people of Iran, with power and bravery, discarded the imported and superficial values of the former regime and replaced them with Islamic values, the prime minister began analyzing the importance of Iran's sensitive position for the United States and the interests of the West in the past. About the reasons behind the hostility of the United States and other powers against the Islamic Revolution, the prime minister said:

The United States suffered the heaviest blows in Iran and its loss of interests in Iran was unprecedented in other parts of the world; this island of stability for the United States has now become a center of fear and horror for it, for the other criminals, and for the rest of the supercriminals.

Referring to the fact that the Islamic Revolution has completely ousted the United States from Iran and that for this reason we are seeing a new conspiracy of the arch-Satan each day, Mr Musavi said: The reason for the intensification of U.S. hostility against us is the fact that the Islamic Revolution of Iran has become a model for struggle and a movement of the world's oppressed masses. Our revolution has opened a glimmer of hope to the people of the world.

While condemning the nonsensical allegations of the Amnesty International organization against the Islamic Republic in connection with the trial of the Baha'i spies, the prime minister said: It is not clear why this organization is silent about the deprived blacks of the United States, the crimes of the Zionists in Sabra and Chatilla and other crimes committed by the major powers.

Mr Musavi explained the efforts made after the victory of the Islamic Revolution to achieve economic self-sufficiency. In connection with the threats of



the criminal Saddam to bomb and fire missiles on 11 Iranian cities, the prime minister emphasized: These threats will bring further unity to the nation and determination to finish the war by delivering the final blow to the disintegrating regime of Saddam.

In conclusion, referring to Lebanon and the retreat of the intervening multinational forces from Lebanon, the prime minister said: The movement of the Lebanese Muslims and their victories are indicative of the effect of the Islamic Revolution in the region. The people have found out that by observing Islam it is possible to stand against any despot and intruder without having to rely on support from another power.

CSO: 4640/122

NOVI CONDEMNS 'WAR-MONGERING' POLICY OF IRAN'S RULERS

TAL62042 (Clandestine) National Voice of Iran in Persian 1730 GMT 16 Feb 84

[Unattributed commentary: "Why Do Rulers of the Islamic Republic Fan the Flame of War?"]

[Excerpts] Dear compatriots: The imposed and destructive war is inflicting destruction, devastation, homelessness, and new calamities every day on our homeland's oppressed and deprived people. It is natural that the people and all true revolutionary forces cannot agree to the prolongation of this war--the profit of which is being pocketed by a handful of millionaires with beards and beads and by their Western masters, and the deadly losses of which are being sustained by the Iranian nation and the oppressed Iraqi people.

The tumult and hue and cry by rulers of the Islamic Republic about the war, as well as their calculated obstinacy and stubbornness in prolonging it--as they themselves have repeatedly said and proved--is neither for the sake of liberating our soil from foreign hands and safeguarding Iran's territorial integrity, nor even for the sake of Islam and those Muslims that these gentlemen falsely profess to support. To them, independence and the national customs, traditions, and mores of our peoples, and even the name of Iran and Iranians, are of no concern. These gentlemen themselves have frequently repeated and continue to repeat, with a childish persistence, that allegedly the Iranian nation is fighting aggressors against its ancestral land for the sake of Islam, whereas our homeland's combatant people, while having faith in their religious and social beliefs, in reality participated sincerely in this war and offered so many sacrifices for the sake of defending their national glories and their homeland's independence and territorial integrity. Was it not these gentlemen who one day, with utter impudence and stupidity, called even the Persian Gulf the Islamic Gulf? Is it not these gentlemen who instead of calling on the people to liberate their land, are inviting them--through daily propaganda--to commit aggression against the soil of others and to liberate Jerusalem or Karbala?

The difference in the people's attitude and that of these gentlemen toward the issue of the imposed war of attrition is that the people took part in the war for the sake of liberating their lands which were subjected to occupation and aggression. The people demanded and demand that this war be terminated

with just and honorable conditions, and devoid of any interference in the internal affairs and the destiny of the other nation. However, rulers of the Islamic Republic of Iran--from top to bottom--are fanning the flames of war for two basic reasons: first, by this means they want to justify their treason to the Iranian Revolution and their failure to implement all the previous promises, as well as to fill further the endless pockets of a bunch of millionaire plunderers and those who pay charity to the imam. Second, they want to prepare the ground as much as possible for aggravating tension in the region, and consequently for escalating the military presence of America and its allies. In order to achieve these criminal goals, rulers of the Islamic Republic of Iran are not refraining from sacrificing millions of our nation's sons. The promise of liberating Jerusalem, and similar claims, is a mask for justifying this great and historic crime. For this reason our homeland's aware and struggling people condemn both the crimes of the aggressive enemy and the war-mongering and muscle-flexing policy of the Islamic Republic of Iran's rulers.

Ending the war with just and honorable conditions, and with the mediation of representatives of governments acceptable to both sides, is the urgent demand of our own and the Iraqi nation.

CSO: 4640/122

IRANIAN MULLAH ON SITUATION IN KUWAIT

GF191030 Tehran ETTELA'AT in Persian 31 Jan 84 p 7

["Exclusive" interview with the deported prayer leader of Kuwait by unidentified ETTELA'AT correspondent in Qom]

[Text] Hojjat ol-Eslam Sayyid Mustafa Zolqadr the prayer leader of the 'Ali ibn abi al-Talib mosque in Kuwait, is one of the fighter brothers who has been deported from this country on orders of the agents of the ruling regime in Kuwait. To learn about the situation in Kuwait, the behavior of government officials to Iranians, the reason for deporting the clergymen, supporters and friends of the Islamic revolution from Kuwait and other problems in the area, we have talked with Hojjat ol-Eslam Zolqadr.

Question: Why were you deported from Kuwait?

Hojjat ol-Eslam Zolqadr: The Kuwaiti Government has started widespread and extensive attacks against all revolutionary and believing Muslims because they are afraid of the spread of the Islamic revolution in the area and are willing to fight any Islamic movement. Since the mosques, the prayer leaders and clergymen play an active and important part in Islamic training of youth, therefore the officials attempt to deport them from the country to weaken the mosques and put them out of the way. In relation to this, after being arrested and spending some time in jail, I was also deported from the country accompanied by all members of my family because I was the prayer leader of the 'Ali ibn Abi al-Talib mosque. There were many clergymen and a few doctors and engineers in prison and the scars of torture could be readily seen on the bodies of all of them. Even some of the young ones who were Muslim citizens of (Jad) were arrested just because they were real Muslims and true believers. They were fasting daily and were beaten every night. Our dear brother Mr Eslami, the head of all the Iranian schools in Kuwait, was also in this prison. In summary, in the Kuwaiti prisons you can find everyone from a two-month-old baby to an old man. The crime of these prisoners is being a Muslim and defending the Islamic revolution and the Ummah of the Imam.

Question: Please tell us what you have seen in Kuwait and the reaction of people towards the Islamic revolution, the Imam of Ummah and the imposed war?

Hojjat ol-Eslam Zolqadr: The situation in Kuwait is deteriorating daily and the rulers of Kuwait give more authority to the United States and Saddam to play on the future of the country and the people. They implement unjust plans of the colonizers and as a result, will destroy the country and people of Kuwait. The people of Kuwait are becoming more unhappy with the activities of the Kuwaiti rulers and are showing their unhappiness and preparing for a revolt. In general, all the Muslims and true believers support the Islamic Republic of Iran and believe that the Imam is the only hope to destroy the unjust rule and save the Muslims of the world from such rulers. In relation to the imposed war, the people of Kuwait condemn the Iran-Iraq war and are behind the Islamic Republic of Iran and are willing to aid Iran in any way, whether financially or otherwise.

Question: How do you see the present situation in Kuwait on political, economic, and social terms?

Hojjat ol-Eslam Zolqadr: From a political point of view, the goal of the United States is to interfere in the Persian Gulf directly and Kuwait has been chosen to implement this decision. Following pressure from the rulers of Saudi Arabia and Iraq on the Kuwaiti regime, it is willing to implement the devilish plans of the United States. This action will be hard on the Muslim people of Kuwait. If this situation continues, disorder will rule Kuwait and it will disintegrate because it is not strong enough to overcome these problems.

From an economic point of view, Kuwait is facing great problems. The problems can easily be seen in the famous (Al-Manakh) trading scandal. The reason for such problems is the great amount of aid which is given, to the Saddam regime in the war against Islamic Iran. The situation has reached a point that this economic problem has influenced the standard of living of the people and is recognized as a great danger.

And finally from a social point of view, people are greatly worried, wondering what will happen to their religion, beliefs, and lives. This fear has developed because implementation of such colonizing plans in the country will jeopardize the religion of the people in the area.

Question: What is the reaction of the police of Kuwait and government officials towards Iranians and the supporters of the Islamic revolution of Iran?

Hojjat ol-Eslam Zolqadr: Their reaction towards us is revengeful and spiteful. But it is obvious that they have been ordered to behave in such a way and do not control the situation, especially the young policemen and officials.

We ask the Muslims of Kuwait to stand against such ugly and unjust actions and force the regime to surrender to the demands of the people. I also advise the regime of Kuwait not to do something to stimulate the religious feelings of the Muslims in the region and force them to act against it. I beg the Islamic Republic of Iran to try to improve the Iranian embassies outside the country in a way so that they pay more attention to individual problems more than the group problems.

CSO: 4640/122



NVOI VIEWS FIFTH ANNIVERSARY OF REVOLUTION

TA141714 (Clandestine) National Voice of Iran in Persian 1730 GMT 13 Feb 84

[Unattributed commentary: "The Combatant Iranian People Will Neutralize the Plans of Traitors to the Revolution"]

[Excerpts] Dear compatriots: The glorious popular and anti-imperialist revolution of the struggling Iranian nation is now five years old. The regime's rulers have talked a lot--in the style of Goebbels--in connection with the revolution's anniversary about the alleged support and backing of the Iranian people for their blood sucking regime, and about their so-called services during these five years. However, particularly at the start of the sixth year of our nation's glorious revolution, they themselves know better than anyone else that the nation no longer believes them. They know that no trace has remained of that support by the scores of million-strong masses for the government. Only they have remained alone with some vultures and a group of naive people. By exploiting the religious beliefs of these naive people, these gentlemen have managed to keep them in their trap of deceit and trickery.

The tyrannical rulers have shed the blood of thousands of Mojahed strugglers. They victimized the struggling Feda'is as much as they could. They made vindictiveness against the Kurdish strugglers--who did not have any demand other than to achieve self-government, to study in the mother language, and to secure the progress of their culture and homeland--the basis of their policy so that other ethnic minorities, including the Azaris, the Torkamans, the Baluchis, and others, would not dare to raise this most elementary legal demand.

Following so much bloodshed and so many crimes and breach of promises, they cowardly assaulted the Iranian Tudeh Party--the party that is the true defender of the toiling masses and the defender of independence, freedom, and social justice. They dealt with its members in such a manner that is unprecedented in the history of the most barbarous tribes and systems. Currently more than 10,000 Tudeh members are, in the true sense of the word, held captive in the bloody clutches of these bloodsucking rulers. According to reports seeping abroad from the regime's medieval dungeons, the Tudeh members have been and are being subjected to the most savage physical, mental, and

medical tortures. Up to now the regime's executioners have killed under medieval tortures a number of the Iranian Tudeh Party's cadres. These are crimes of which Ayatollah Khomeyni cannot be unaware.

Shedding the blood of some 40,000 Mojahed, Tudeh, and Feda'i strugglers and of other true patriots; putting more than 100,000 political prisoners in the regime's medieval dungeons; consistently trying to eliminate all genuine defenders of the nation's popular and anti-imperialist revolution on the one hand; deepening the crisis in industry and agriculture; increasing the import of foodstuff by 200 percent; contributing to the aimless wanderings of over 5 million unemployed; closing universities and schools of higher learning; depriving struggling and free youths of studying both in the secondary and higher levels; and paving the way for the return of world-devouring America and its allies--these are some examples of the so-called services by the Islamic regime's tyrannical and deceitful rulers during the last one or two years.

At present Iran has been transformed, in the true sense of the word, into the prison of all strugglers and patriots who secured the victory of the nation's popular and anti-imperialist revolution. Our struggling nation will, however, unite and will undoubtedly not allow the blood shed on the revolution's path to be worthless. It was these people who brought the nation's popular and anti-imperialist revolution to victory, and it is these combatant people who can foil the treacherous plans of the Islamic regime's rulers and world-devouring America.

CSO: 4640/122

## BRIEFS

**BALUCHI EXECUTIONS**--[From review of listeners' letters]--The following letter is from our listener Jahangir Sardardehi in Bahrain. He writes: Hail to the producers of Radio Iran. I am Jahangir Baluch, an avid listener of Radio Iran and the first person who found out the wavelengths of Radio Iran, Free Voice of Iran, Voice of Iran, and Vatan Radio and passed them to all my friends, who also love listening to Radio Iran. I have a complaint about Radio Iran concerning their avoidance of reporting news about Baluchestan. Not a single day goes by when the Baluchi braves are not sending the guards of the imposter Khomeyni to hell or that the guards of the imposter Khomeyni do not commit an atrocity against Baluchi villagers. Sometime back the unjust courts of the mullahs sentenced 12 of the children of Iran to death in one instance and in another court executed 20 of our Baluchi leaders in the province. These reports were not carried by your radio. The people of Sistan va Baluchestan have been against the oppressive government of the mullahs from the start. However, my intention is to let you know that all the brave Iranian warriors have started an extensive struggle in every province against the imposter Khomeyni and you carry such reports except for those about Baluchestan Province. I suggest you should report events wherever they occur in Iran. [Signed] Jahangir Sardardehi, a Baluch and an Iranian. [Excerpts] [GF201843 (Clandestine) Radio Iran in Persian 1330 GMT 20 Feb 84]

**PRIME MINISTER ON 'BIASED' WESTERN MEDIA**--Tehran, 15 Feb, IRNA--Iran's mass media should open a window for the world nations, through which the oppressed could witness the realities of the Islamic Revolution, said Prime Minister Musavi-Khamene'i today. Speaking to the personnel of the English language daily TEHRAN TIMES, published here, the prime minister pointed to the conspiracies of Western mass media in distorting the picture of the Islamic Revolution through publishing biased reports. He added that even the most impartial kind of foreign report about Iran was presented with an outlook different from that of the Islamic Revolution. The reason, he said, was because the interests of the superpowers had been jeopardised by the movement of the Muslim nation of Iran. He further said if the experience of the Islamic Revolution was conveyed truthfully, it could change the destiny of the world of Islam. The prime minister said the erroneous concept of the Westerners and the Iraqi regime of the morale of the Muslim nation of Iran and Saddam's fear of the pending massive offensive of Iran, as well as inability of the Iraqi regime to continue the war and its failure to force Iran to accept an imposed peace were the reasons for the brutal bombardment of residential areas by Iraq. He stressed that the Iranian nation showed during the commemorative ceremonies of the anniversary of the victory of the Islamic Revolution (Feb 11) the determination to achieve definite victory as they knew the Iraqi imposed war was that between unbelief and Islam as a whole. [Text] [LD161009 Tehran IRNA in English 0942 GMT 16 Feb 84]

CARPET IMPORTS INCREASE--Tehran, 21 Feb, IRNA--During the first three quarters of the current Iranian year some 1,400 tons of hand-woven carpets have been exported and the figure is to reach 2,000 tons by the end of this year (March 21, 84), said the managing director of the Iran Carpet Company, Mohammad Reza Abed here today. The volume of export for the past Iranian year, he added, was 1,081 tons and the reason for the increase in volume of carpet export was the incentive plans adopted by the Ministry of Commerce, including attractive terms for foreign exchange transactions. The average annual output of hand-woven carpets is 5.281 million sq meters of ordinary carpets and 226,000 sq meters of silk carpet, said the official. He further added a total of two million carpet weavers were engaged in this industry and 966,961 carpet weaving frames were installed in workshops. [Text] [GF211630 Tehran IRNA in English 1700 GMT 21 Feb 84]

CSO: 4600/365

## NEPAL

### BRIEFS

RELATIONS WITH PANAMA--Katmandu, 15 Feb (AFP)--Nepal and Panama have established diplomatic relations at the ambassadorial level, Nepalese Ministry of Foreign Affairs announced here today. Nepal now has diplomatic relations with 86 countries, a senior official said. Panama is the sixth Latin American country to have links with Nepal after Cuba, Mexico, Peru, Brazil and Costa Rica. [Text] [BK201520 Hong Kong AFP in English 0723 GMT 15 Feb 84]

DIPLOMATIC RELATIONS WITH BRUNEI--Nepal and Brunei have decided to establish relations at ambassadorial level. This is stated in a press release issued by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs on 3 February. With this, Nepal now has diplomatic relations with 86 countries. [Text] [BK050823 Katmandu External Service in English 1450 GMT 3 Feb 84]

CSO: 4600/368



# CONCERN EXPRESSED OVER THREATS TO BORDER SECURITY

Karachi AMN in Urdu 15 Jan 84 p 2

[Article by Jumma Khan in the column "From Jumma Khan's Pen"]: "The Best Politics Is Not Having Enemies on the Border"]

[Excerpt] We have bilateral negotiations, trilateral negotiations, help from the United Nations and even went to war over the Kashmir issue, but we have made no progress over it in the last 35 years. The Afghanistan problem is a complicated one. We have tried some indirect talks but have not participated in direct talks for a political solution. If we could not gain anything by talking directly to India, how can we expect to make gains in indirect talks [on Afghanistan]? In Kashmir, only the Indian Army was involved; in Afghanistan, we have the army of a superpower involved. If we could not succeed in expelling the Indian Army from Kashmir, the question of ousting the Soviet Army from Afghanistan does not arise. Only direct negotiations can help us, but we have already rejected proposals for talks offered by the Soviets and the Afghan Government.

Can we afford lengthy talks over the Afghanistan issue? What if these talks drag on for 35 years like the Kashmir talks? Can we provide for 3 million mujahidin that long? Second, the refugees who have been living in tents for 4 years might live there for 10,20 or 30 more years. Will they still call themselves refugees? Will we be able to return them to their homes? We cannot ignore the fact that the culture and economy of NWFP and Baluchistan are affected by the hundreds of thousands of refugees living there. There are conflicts among local and refugee workers and businesses.

That was our second front. Now, we have another front on the Iranian border. Iran has started to load Afghan refugees into trucks and push them into Baluchistan. These refugees had either refused to obey Iranian law, were criminals or were suspected of being U.S. agents.

Iran has common borders with the Soviet Union, Afghanistan, Iraq, Pakistan and Turkey. Iran, if it wished, could have sent those unwanted Afghan refugees to Rumekey. But it chose Pakistan for this dumping. Iran and Iraq are at war and the refugees cannot be sent to Afghanistan and the USSR. Turkey must have refused to allow Iran to dump these refugees there, so Pakistan was the only

country left for this honor. If these refugees were rejected by Iran, we do not know why they should be a boon to us.

Our government has repeatedly announced that the Afghan refugees are not entitled to own property or carry a national identification card in Pakistan. Our high-level investigation indicates that the Afghans have not only bought real property but have also rented homes, started businesses and even obtained identification cards. Some Afghan refugees have even acquired Pakistani passports and emigrated to other countries. Such news is often published in the papers.

A map of Pakistan and its environs shows that the major part of our border is shared with India, followed by Afghanistan, Iran and China. We have said that it is not possible to close the border joining Afghanistan; thus it is not possible to defend ourselves on this border. Now that Iranians are dumping refugees on our border, and after thousands of Iranians earlier managed to slip into our country, it appears that we cannot seal the Pakistan-Iran border either. Now the question arises: If we cannot seal our smaller borders, how effective are we in protecting our largest border, with India? If we are controlling our largest border well then why have we failed to protect our smaller borders? Thousands of Burmese Muslims have entered Pakistan via India and thousands of Biharis from Bangladesh have also entered Pakistan. This state of affairs indicates that we do have some control on the Indo-Pakistani border, but it is not strong enough. These circumstances cannot be deemed satisfactory from the military and defense points of view.

7997

CSO: 4656/75

## PAKISTAN

### QADIANI QUESTION EXAMINED; ZIA URGED TO TAKE ACTION

Lahore CHATAN in Urdu 12-19 Dec 83 pp 19-20

[Article by Naeeni Asi: "President, the Qadiani Question and The Action Committee"]

[Text] President Ziaul Haq recently announced in Karachi in the most unambiguous and clear terms that he was not a Qadiani.

He said that he believes Holy Prophet Mohammad is the last prophet and that he considers all the people who do not believe that no more prophets will come after Mohammad as non-Muslims and worse than nonbelievers. The President said among the audience were some people who knew his late father, Mohammad Akbar Ali, who spent this whole life in government service constantly struggling against the Qadianis and considered Qadianis as a mischievous creation of the British. He noted that being the son of such a person, he could in no way become a Qadiani or support them and that he was ready to pronounce them not only as infidels but also as something far worse, if there is such a thing. He said that despite his declarations, the mischief initiated against him will not stop because it is a political mischief started by some religious people. On the day of reckoning, he said, he will call them to account for their actions. He said he could only pray to God to show them the right path and added: If someone were to guarantee that this mischief would stop if I publish a full-page declaration in JANG, NAWA-I-WAQT and MASHRIQ and proclaim inside a mosque that I am not a Qadiani, I would do so most willingly, but I am sure such mischief will continue despite such declarations and proclamations" (JANG, 18 Nov 1983).

When President Aizul Haq clarified his religious convictions in Sukkur, this writer at the time noted in CHATAN that the president failed to understand the reasons and motives underlying the concern and restlessness among the people, and I maintain the same opinion to this day.

Although President Ziaul Haq is the first head of state to have expressed his views about Qadianis with such openness in public, this action has many implications that are beyond the scope of our present discussion. The crux of the matter is that the present government claims to have introduced the Islamic system of administration. Everyone is aware of the government's pledge. It is evident that no matter which government in Pakistan claims to

have introduced an Islamic system of government, it will have to mold all walks of life--politics, the economy, society, law, education, etc--in line with Islamic teachings. If any power tries to harm Islam or the Muslims from inside or outside the country, then it is only natural that the Muslims of this country will automatically demand that the government take measures to stop such action. Any government claiming to have introduced an Islamic system of government will have to respond positively to the desires and demands of the people. Should the government hesitate, then its credibility will be jeopardized, and this is something that should be borne in mind.

Now let us examine the Qadiani question against this background. The people in this country have come to believe that Qadianis are not faithful to Islam and Pakistan. This is why such a strong and peculiar reaction is to be found in the people against Qadianis. The existing state of affairs has many aspects--religious, economic, political and social. Just consider that if a broadminded and tolerant person like Allama Iqbal considered Qadianis to be traitors both to Islam and to the country and clearly expressed his feelings in this respect in unambiguous and no uncertain terms, then it should not be difficult to understand the feelings and thoughts of Muslims in general with regard to such a movement.

We all know that as a result of the beating up of students of Nishtar Medical College at the Rabwah railway station and the movement initiated in response to it, Qadianis were legally declared non-Muslims in September 1974. At the time, it was decided that new legislation would be enacted in accordance with the legal amendment. But the rulers did not keep their pledge. When Mohammad Ayub Khan came into power and talked about enforcing an Islamic system, the people thought that perhaps the new legislation was going to be enforced, but things moved in the opposite direction. This became clear when the Lahore High Court handed down a ruling toward the end of 1977 in connection with the construction of a mosque in Dera Ghazi Khan. The Lahore High Court argued that in the absence of any legislation banning the Qadianis from building a mosque, it could not prevent them from doing so. In this case, it is worth mentioning that the Muslims had already obtained a stay from the civil and district courts. The court ruling shocked the Muslims. This can be seen from articles published in newspapers representing the views of religious groups of that period. The writer gave the following advice to the president after presenting a detailed analysis of the court's rulings in one of his articles: "The current state of affairs also deserves the attention of the present martial law administrator, Gen Ziaul Haq, about whose virtues I have heard so much. If his martial law regulations can serve religion in any way then the whole Muslim nation will give him its blessings. The future constituent assembly can give the regulation the status of a law."

This text was published in the 19 December 1977 issue of CHATAN. Later, Maulana Mohammad Aslam Qureshi, a missionary of the Khalm-e Nabawwat ['Finality of the Prophethood'] Committee of Sialkot, asked me for permission to publish this text in the form of a booklet. It should be noted here that Maulana Mohammad Aslam Qureshi is missing these days. This complete text was



published in a very beautiful format as a booklet under a heading demanding that the Qadiani issue be legislated in accordance with the legal amendment, and 18,000 postcards containing points raised in the text were published and distributed throughout the country by the Khatmic Nabawwat committee. These postcards were signed by the people and sent to the president.

If the president of Pakistan had welcomed the demands of the people then, the situation would certainly have been different. But alas this did not happen. The reactions caused by this inaction were accelerated by several incidents that followed and that are detailed below.

1. The wording in the affidavits on voters' forms was changed to make them agreeable to the Qadianis, but these were later amended when the people protested.

2. In August 1980, Mirza Nasir Ahmed declared in London that "God abrogated this amendment of the Qadianis being a non-Muslim minority" and that he considered it a transitory step, knowing it would be abrogated and that the people would forget it. In March 1981, 7 months after Mirza Nasir's press conference, when the provisional constitution was enforced the decisive article 16 aimed at declaring Qadianis as a non-Muslim minority was not included. What happened following this incident is another matter.

3. Dr Abdussalam Qadiani remained attached to the Pakistan Atomic Commission from 1958 to 1974. He resigned and left the country after Qadianis were declared a non-Muslim minority, and because of this attitude he lost his popularity among the masses. But after he was awarded the Nobel Prize, the present government called him back to Pakistan and gave him an honorary doctorate. A ceremony was held for him in the same parliament building where in 1974 the Qadianis were declared a non-Muslim minority. His house was declared a national monument and 25,000 rupees was allocated to carry out the preliminary work. Later, he was not only invited to attend the Islamic Science Conference held in Islamabad in May 1983, but he was also given extraordinary preference on television.

4. On his return from a trip abroad, Mirza Tahir Ahmed, the head of the Qadiani sect, was greeted with a procession at the Lahore airport, and "Long Live Ahmadiyah" slogans were raised. The Qadiani newspaper ALFAZL in Rabwah published a detailed account of the whole event. Mirza Tahir later held a meeting in a five-star hotel in Lahore, attended by about 1,000 people, and announced that he did not accept the article in the 1983 constitution labeling Qadianis as a non-Muslim minority and that he was prepared to debate the matter anywhere. This was an open violation of the constitution, along with the fact that the government did not take any notice, even though it was not prepared to allow any party in Pakistan to openly hold a meeting in a hotel in this manner.

5. President Ziaul Haq appointed Raja Munawwar Ahmed Qadiani as his political adviser, and he visited Sri Lanka, France, the United States, Germany and Turkey at official expense. In the context of the president's political structure he was given the task of studying and researching the matter.



Newspapers like NAWA-I-WAQT took notice of this incident and drew attention to its seriousness. News reports were also published in the national press to the effect that during a meeting of the Federal Advisory Council, Raja Runawwar Ahmed was seated with the president's children.

6. After the death of Mirza Nasir Ahmed, Mirza Tahir succeeded him and with his succession changes started taking place in the attitude of the Qadianis. Not only did the tone of their newspapers become aggressive and provocative, but they also began demonstrating their physical strength, starting with the beating of a Muslim teacher in Rabwah and ending with the kidnapping of Maulana Mohammad Aslam Qureshi as he was leaving Merajke for Sialkot on a preaching mission to contain the situation resulting from the conversion of two Muslim girls into the Qadiani sect. The government has failed to find him to this day, nor has it been able to give any definite information about him.

In short, all these incidents have given rise to a series of reactions among the people, who now question the religious convictions of the president. As a result of this situation, an All Pakistan Khatm-e Nabawwat Committee the Prophethood has now been formed. This committee has within its ranks universally accepted representatives of all Muslim schools of thought.

Instead of a description of internal conditions, the situation calls for action. The writer feels it is his duty to state that it would certainly be in the interest of the government if the president were to accept the demands of the Muslims in the country without getting involved in trials and tribulations. On the contrary, in view of the prevailing internal and external conditions, this would indeed be considered a wise step. As it is, martial law is in force in the country and under martial law the president has special and extraordinary powers by virtue of which he can very easily take the measures detailed above.

9315

CSO: 4656/61

COMMUNIQUE ON 6 FEB ALL-PARTY CONFERENCE

BK171329 Colombo DAILY NEWS in English 7 Feb 84 p 1

[By T. Sabarathnam]

[Text] President Jayewardene yesterday emphatically denied the Sri Lanka Freedom Party charge that the government was trying to thrust a pre-conceived plan on the [All Party] conference.

He called the allegation "a figment of imagination".

President Jayewardene made his comments after the SLFP and the Opposition Leader's letters explaining the reasons for the decision to withdraw from the conference were read at yesterday's sittings.

TULF leader A. Amirthalingam made a statement explaining the circumstances that led to his trip to India and indicated that he would issue a statement to the press meeting the SLFP charge.

Conference spokesman Lalith Athulathmudali who recounted the happenings in yesterday's four-hour sitting said, "I am a member of this government. I know of no pre-conceived plan".

The conference decided to invite the SLFP and the conference secretary will write to the SLFP.

The conference decided that both committees should sit together. President Jayewardene will continue to preside with the committee chairmen Prime Minister R. Premadasa and Home Minister K. W. Dewanayagam sitting with him on the dais.

The next meeting was fixed for February 21 and 22.

In the meantime the delegations will work out their proposals, which will be considered when the committees meet.

The communique issued by the conference reads:

"The conference reconvened in plenary under the chairmanship of his excellency the president.

"The conference was graced by the presence of the Venerable Mahanayake Thero of Malwatte Chapter. Addressing the conference, the Venerable Mahanayake Thero said that the Maha Sangha [Buddhist Council] was totally against the division of the country. Every citizen of Sri Lanka should be free to live in any part of the island without fear of harassment. He also said that the government should consider granting citizenship to all stateless persons of Indian origin in Sri Lanka. He added that the government should give heed to the advice offered by the Maha Sangha.

"The conference sat today with all the members of committees, the rapporteurs and the legal advisers being present.

"Letters from the general secretary of the Sri Lanka Freedom Party and the leader of the opposition to the secretary of the All-Party Conference giving reasons why they could not continue to participate in the conference were read out. Thereafter his excellency made a statement that any impression that the government was trying to impose a preconceived plan on the conference was incorrect.

Mr Amirthalingam too made a statement explaining his position in regard to the matters referred to in the letter of the general secretary of the Sri Lanka Freedom Party.

"The conference decided that the secretary of the All-Party Conference should take steps to convey to the SLFP this information and, especially in view of the importance of the matters before the conference, request the SLFP on behalf of the conference to return.

"The conference also decided that it would be convenient for the two committees to sit together with all the participants in order to deal with matters referred to the committees relevantly and expeditiously.

"The terms of reference that will be covered by the two committees referred to are:

(a) to examine the grievances presented on behalf of all communities and to consider and recommend appropriate solutions therefore, including provision for the participation of the people at all levels in the system of government, and

(b) to examine the causes of ethnic violence and all forms of terrorism in any part of the country and the means to eradicate them.

"The All-Party Conference will reconvene on the 21st and 22d February at 4.30 p.m.

"At those meetings the conference will address itself to specific matters as well as matters of detail focused by the secretariat and already circulated. The participants will also be free to submit to the conference any proposals of their own in addition to the matters already before it."

CSO: 4600/367

TULF LEADER'S STATEMENT REPLIES TO SLFP CHARGE

BK171335 Colombo SUN in English 8 Feb 84 pp 1, 3

[Text] The Tamil United Liberation Front Secretary-General A. Amirthalingam said yesterday that he did not divulge any confidential matters or say anything prejudicial to the work of the All-Party Conference [APC] when he spoke to the press in India.

In a statement issued yesterday, Mr Amirthalingam said:

The reference to the TULF in the letter written by the general secretary of the SLFP to the secretary of the All-Party Conference calls for an explanation from me. Three days after the conference R. Sampanthan and I went to Madras because our families are there. They have to be there for reasons of security. We did not go to India for consultation with anybody. I did not make any statement casting any aspersions on the SLFP or the Buddhist clergy.

"In answer to a question whether the Buddhist clergy were hostile, I said that they were more sympathetic now. The people of Tamil Nadu in particular and of India in general were deeply agitated at the sufferings of the Tamil people during the dark days of July and August. They are anxious that there should be a peaceful solution to the problems. I could not possibly refuse to answer questions by the Indian press which had highlighted our trauma. But I was careful not to divulge any confidential matters and not to say anything prejudicial to the work of the APC.

It is well known it was through the good offices of the Government of India and the untiring efforts of Prime Minister Indira Gandhi's emissary G. Parthasarathy that the TULF's participation at the APC became possible. Naturally we had to keep Mr Parthasarathy informed of the progress of the talks. Mr Sambanthan and I went to New Delhi and briefed Mr Parthasarathy and others concerned of the developments at the conference.

"In Madras I made courtesy calls on the chief minister and other party leaders who are personal friends of mine and who came forward to voice our sufferings during the July holocaust. These matters need not give any occasions for the SLFP to pull out of the APC. This decision of the SLFP is unfortunate and I hope they will reconsider it in the interests of peace and harmony.

CSO: 4600367

SLFP GENERAL SECRETARY'S LETTER ON TALKS BOYCOTT

BK171325 Colombo DAILY NEWS in English 7 Feb 84 p 11

[Text] The general secretary of the Sri Lanka Freedom Party Mr Ratnasiri Wickremanayake has addressed the following letter to Mr E. F. Dias Abeysinghe, the secretary of the All-Party Conference, giving reasons for the SLFP's decision to keep away from the conference.

The letter states:

"At the invitation of the All-Party Conference we participated in the conference for the purpose of finding a reasonable solution of a durable nature to the ethnic problems. As a responsible political party we continued to participate notwithstanding departures by certain delegations in the sincere hope of finding a solution to this national problem. We participated in the expectation that all participants will adhere to the spirit and the conventions of the conference.

"From the commencement of the conference the SLFP expressed concern of an existing pre-conceived solution arrived at by a few of the participants including the government. It is for this, among other reasons, that the SLFP even prior to the conference requested the government for their proposals. The president and the government, notwithstanding requests from various delegations have failed to respond. The failure on the part of the president and government is indicative of an attempt to thrust a pre-conceived solution in the name of the conference.

"Newspaper and radio reports originating from Sri Lanka and India reveal that some of the TULF delegates to the conference have visited India during the period the conference adjourned and had consultations with political personalities among whom some have threatened the sovereignty and territorial integrity of Sri Lanka.

"It is reported that TULF leaders have made unwarranted references on foreign soil regarding the conference proceedings and on some of its participants especially the Buddhist clergy and the SLFP. These remarks express a lack of confidence in the conference and cast doubts on the sincerity of the interests represented by us.



"These statements destroy the spirit of the conference and is in breach of the conference convention.

"The conduct of the TULF has created an impression in the minds of our party rank and file that the TULF is inviting South Indian intervention in the internal affairs of our country. It has also been represented to us that the TULF is seeking advice and opinion from foreign sources on matters pertaining to domestic problems of Sri Lanka.

"In this context, we record our appreciation of Srimathi Indira Gandhi, the prime minister of India who has repeatedly confirmed that she will not interfere in the internal affairs of Sri Lanka.

"Terrorism and violence have reached present proportions because the government failed to take effective measures from the time the government assumed office in 1977. It is most unfortunate that acts of terrorism and violence continue in the northern and eastern provinces unabated in contempt and total disregard to the conference proceedings.

"This clearly reveals that the government is incapable of combatting terrorism and that the TULF are unable to contain terrorist activities. Instead of going to Jaffna to contain terrorist activities TULF leaders had gone to South India for consultations.

"These unfortunate events have led the SLFP Central Committee to decide that further participation at the conference will serve no useful purpose."

CSO: 4600/367

## BRIEFS

PER CAPITA GNP--The per capita Gross National Product [GNP] of Sri Lanka has increased by 3.1 per cent during 1982, according to the Central Bank's Review of the Economy for 1982, which has just been released. The increase in the per capita GNP in the previous year, the report points out, has been 2.7 per cent. The estimated per capita GNP at current prices in 1982 has been Rs 5,900 (U.S.\$283) compared with Rs 5,197 (US\$270) in 1981. Dealing with overall trends in Sri Lanka's economy in 1982, the report says, that the real increase in the country's GNP in 1982 has been estimated at 4.8 per cent compared with the 4.1 per cent in the previous year. The growth rate of the Gross Domestic Product has however been 5.1 per cent indicating a slight decline from 5.8 percent of the previous year. [Text] [BK201726 Colombo SUN in English 8 Feb 84 p 3]

PADDY DAMAGE--Heavy rain and floods in nine districts in the past few days washed away and destroyed paddy crops estimated at 975 million rupees. According to a spokesman for the paddy marketing board, this is a serious blow to the paddy harvest. In Batticaloa alone, which had unprecedented rain, about 3.5 million bushels of paddy have been destroyed. Its value is 227.5 million rupees. [Excerpt] [BK201726 Colombo International Service in English 1045 GMT 18 Feb 84]

CSO: 4600/367

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